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Entanglement entropy for 2D gauge theories with matters

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We investigate the entanglement entropy in $1 + 1$ -dimensional $SU(N)$ gauge theories with various matter fields using the lattice regularization. Here we use extended Hilbert space definition for entanglement entropy, which contains three contributions; (1) classical Shannon entropy associated with superselection sector distribution, where sectors are labeled by irreducible representations of boundary penetrating fluxes, (2) logarithm of the dimensions of their representations, which is associated with “color entanglement,” and (3) EPR Bell pairs, which give “genuine” entanglement. We explicitly show that entanglement entropies (1) and (2) above indeed appear for various multiple “meson” states in gauge theories with matter fields. Furthermore, we employ transfer matrix formalism for gauge theory with fundamental matter field and analyze its ground state using hopping parameter expansion (HPE), where the hopping parameter K is roughly the inverse square of the mass for the matter. We evaluate the entanglement entropy for the ground state and show that all (1), (2), (3) above appear in the HPE, though the Bell pair part (3) appears in higher order than (1) and (2) do. With these results, we discuss how the ground state entanglement entropy in the continuum limit can be understood from the lattice ground state obtained in the HPE.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Entanglement is a key feature, which distinguishes quantum worlds from classical worlds. Simply saying, entanglement allows us to know detailed information about subsystem A once we measure the other subsystem B, even though we know nothing about each subsystem A & B separately before we make a measurement. Recently these entanglement caught attention since it becomes more and more clear that the notion of entanglement is one of the key feature to understand the gauge/gravity duality [1] and emerging smooth space-time (see for example, [2]). Needless to say, all of the forces except for gravity in Nature are described by gauge theories, and furthermore due to the gauge/gravity duality, quantum gravity in asymptotic anti-de Sitter space is also equivalent to certain gauge theory non-perturbatively. In order to understand how the space-time emerges through the idea of entanglement and gauge/gravity duality, deepening our understanding of entanglement in gauge theory must be crucial.

Entanglement in spin system is well defined and there is no ambiguity for its definition. Decomposing the Hilbert space into “inside” and “outside,” and by tracing out the “outside” Hilbert space, we obtain the density matrix of the “inside” states. Its von Neumann entropy is the entanglement entropy between “inside” and “outside”.

However the situation is a bit more subtle in gauge theories. In gauge theories, Hilbert space *cannot* be decomposed into two gauge invariant subsystem properly, due to the local gauge invariance condition, which gives nonlocal constraints for the allowed states. As a result, there exists non-local operators such as Wilson loops which spread both inside and outside, and thus restrict Hilbert spaces of inside and outside through Gauss’s law constraints. The absence of the gauge invariant decomposition brought some confusions for how to define the entanglement entropy in gauge theories.

The main problem of how to define the entanglement entropy associated with the nonproduct nature of the Hilbert space in gauge theories is now solved through recent works [3–6]. For Abelian gauge theory, Casini *et al.* in [3] pointed out that the presence of a nontrivial center, which commute with all the operators on the inside (Hilbert space), characterizes the ambiguity of the entanglement entropy in gauge theories. Clearly this center corresponds physically to gauge invariant Wilson loop operators penetrating the boundary. They connect inside and outside Hilbert spaces, and also split the inside Hilbert space into several different superselection sectors labeled by fluxes of the penetrating loop. In each superselection sector, the Hilbert space *can* now be written as a tensor product of inside and outside Hilbert spaces $\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}, \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{out}}^{\mathbf{k}}$. They allow us to define reduced density matrix $\rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}$ such that $\text{Tr} \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}} = 1$, where \mathbf{k} is the label for different superselection sectors, specifying the penetrating gauge flux “representations” at all boundaries. Then the definition of the entanglement entropy is given as [3]

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$$S_{EE} = -\sum_{\mathbf{k}} p_{\mathbf{k}} \log(p_{\mathbf{k}}) - \sum_{\mathbf{k}} p_{\mathbf{k}} \text{Tr}_{\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}} \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}} \log \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}, \quad (1.1)$$

where the second term is the weighted average of the “genuine” entanglement on each sector \mathbf{k} with the probability $p_{\mathbf{k}}$, which we mean EPR Bell pairs obtained in entanglement distillation,

$$S(\rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}) = -\text{Tr}_{\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}} \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}} \log \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}, \quad (1.2)$$

while the first term is the classical Shannon entropy for the probability distribution of the variables on the center.¹ Note that this classical entropy is different from the genuine entanglement entropy.

The “extended Hilbert space” definition of the entanglement entropy is given in [4–6]. In these, we literally extend the Hilbert space in such a way that the Hilbert space is *no more* restricted to gauge invariant state only

$$\mathcal{Q}_{\text{BRST}}|\text{phys}\rangle = 0. \quad (1.3)$$

As a result of this extension, the Hilbert space can now be decomposed as a tensor products of two (gauge noninvariant) subsystems without ambiguity. In the lattice formulation of gauge theories, the extended Hilbert space can be identified to the Hilbert space of a spin system, so that one can define the entanglement entropy unambiguously. For example in the $U(1)$ case, the explicit calculation becomes possible [7,8], and it has been shown in [4] that this definition agrees with (1.1).

In non-Abelian gauge theory, however, the extended Hilbert space entanglement entropy definition needs an extension of (1.1), which consists of three terms as [8]

$$S_{EE} = -\sum_{\mathbf{k}} p_{\mathbf{k}} \log p_{\mathbf{k}} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} p_{\mathbf{k}} \left(\sum_i \log d_{\mathbf{k}^i} \right) - \sum_{\mathbf{k}} p_{\mathbf{k}} \text{Tr}_{\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}} \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}} \log \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}. \quad (1.4)$$

The first and third term are essentially the same as (1.1), while the peculiarity of the non-Abelian gauge theory appears in the second term, which contains the sum over boundary vertices index i , where i runs all boundary vertices and \mathbf{k}^i is the irreducible representation of the penetrating gauge loop at that boundary with $d_{\mathbf{k}^i}$ being the dimension of the representation \mathbf{k}^i .² Thus the second term vanishes for the Abelian case since all representations are

¹In [3], it is also shown that different choices of the inside operators give different centers and then it is possible to take a trivial center such that the classical entropy for the sector distribution part vanishes.

²Note that $\mathbf{k} = \{\mathbf{k}^1, \mathbf{k}^2, \dots, \mathbf{k}^{n_b}\}$, where n_b is a total number of boundary vertices.

1-dimensional. Here the superselection sector is labeled by $\mathbf{k} = \{\mathbf{k}^i | i \in \text{all boundary vertices in } \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}}\}$. Since the representations in non-Abelian gauge theory are no more one dimensional, the requirement of wave function being gauge invariant (singlet) at the boundaries generates a new type of entanglement between inside and outside states. In other words, the non-Abelian gauge theory has a new term in (1.4), which is the entanglement entropy associated with “color” at each boundary.

Although the appropriate definition is given, definitely more detailed aspects of the entanglement entropy, especially for non-Abelian gauge theories, need to be better understood both qualitatively and quantitatively. A purpose of this paper is twofold: one is to deepen our understanding of the formula (1.4) in non-Abelian gauge theories with various matter fields, by explicitly evaluating the contributions to each of the three terms in (1.4). This is because the non-Bell pair contributions, i.e., the first and second terms of (1.4) are less familiar. The other is to study the vacuum entanglement entropy of non-Abelian gauge theories through the lattice formulation. Gauge theories are well defined on the lattice, and moreover, once we employ the extended Hilbert space definition, the gauge theory on the lattice effectively reduces to the one essentially equivalent to the usual spin system.

The entanglement entropy for the ground state in non-Abelian gauge theories is especially interesting and it is well studied by the strong coupling expansion in the lattice formulation [6,9–11]. In the formulation by Kogut-Susskind [12], the Hamiltonian for pure gauge theories (without matter fields) in lattice regularization is given by [13]

$$H = \frac{g_{\text{YM}}^2}{2a} \sum_{\text{link}(ij)} \hat{J}_{ij}^2 + \frac{1}{g_{\text{YM}}^2 a} \sum (\text{plaquette terms}), \quad (1.5)$$

where a is the lattice spacing, g_{YM} is the bare gauge coupling on the lattice, and \hat{J}_{ij} is the generator of the gauge transformation at the vertex i for the link (ij) , which satisfies $\hat{J}_{ij}^2 = \hat{J}_{ji}^2$. In the strong coupling limit that $g_{\text{YM}} \rightarrow \infty$, the ground state, which we call the *strong coupling ground state* $|0\rangle_{\text{strong}}$, is given by the *tensor product* of the ground state $|0\rangle_{ij}$ of each link as

$$|0\rangle_{\text{strong}} = \bigotimes_{ij} |0\rangle_{ij}, \quad (1.6)$$

where $|0\rangle_{ij}$ satisfies $\hat{J}_{ij}^2 |0\rangle_{ij} = 0$. Therefore there is *no entanglement* for the strong coupling ground state. Note that plaquette terms disappear in 2 dimensions, so that one can always obtain this $|0\rangle_{\text{strong}}$ as a ground state in 2-dimensional pure gauge theories at an arbitrary value of the coupling constant. In other words, not only the

ground state obtained in higher dimensional ($d \geq 3$) pure gauge theories at strong coupling limit but also that of 2-dimensional gauge theories at an arbitrary coupling ground state are given by $|0\rangle_{\text{strong}}$ on the lattice.

On the other hand, the vacuum in continuum gauge theories, which we call the *continuum ground state*, is manifestly entangled: tracing out the subsystem makes the rest subsystem into mixed states like the Bogoliubov transformation. This is not a contradiction, however, since the lattice gauge theories at the strong coupling limit is far from the continuum limit. Due to the asymptotic freedom of gauge theories, the continuum gauge theory with non-zero renormalized coupling (the IR theory) is obtained from the lattice gauge theory in the limit of zero bare gauge coupling (the UV theory).

Therefore, it is important to understand how the strong coupling ground state approaches the entangled continuum ground state in the process of the continuum limit. In generic dimensions, however, solving the gauge theory on the lattice analytically is very hard exercise, unless we take the strong coupling limit or the expansion around it. That is why people use numerical simulations in lattice gauge theories, which are shown to be very successful. This situation is a little different in 2-dimensions, since a 2-dimensional pure gauge theory is in some sense “trivial” due to the absence of local physical degrees of freedom. As a result, we can calculate entanglement entropy for any states at an arbitrary coupling constant [14], so that we can take the continuum limit analytically. Unfortunately, genuine entanglement, i.e., the third term in (1.4), vanishes in 2-dimensional pure gauge theories even in the continuum limit [14] as is expected.

Once we add matter fields to pure gauge theories in 2-dimensions, genuine entangled states emerge due to the existence of local degrees of freedom. We thus take these gauge plus matter theories as toy models of pure gauge theories in higher dimensions, since gauge plus adjoint matters in 2-dimensions, for example, are expected to have analogous behaviors as higher dimensional pure Yang-Mills theories with compactified extra ($d-2$) dimensions. While pure gauge theories plus matters can not be solved analytically even in 2-dimensions,³ we can include effects of matter fields order by order in the hopping parameter expansion (HPE) for the small hopping parameter $K \equiv 1/(2 + (ma)^2)$, where m is the bare mass of matter field and ma must be large for the HPE to work.⁴

In this paper, using the HPE but at an arbitrary gauge coupling, we demonstrate how the genuine entanglement entropy emerges for the ground state of gauge plus matter fields in 2-dimensions. We mainly consider matter fields

in the fundamental representation, but an essential idea works similarly for adjoint matters and other representations. Adding adjoint matters is an interesting set-up, since it resembles the large N D1-brane gauge theory, which is dual to the string theory in the curved space-time [16].

The organization of this paper is as follows. In Sec. II, we review the lattice study in [6] for the pure gauge theory in 2-dimensions, which has no local physical degrees of freedom. Therefore, there is no genuine entanglement in 2-dimensional pure gauge theory. Then in Secs. III and IV, we add matter fields, and study entanglement of various meson excited states. Section V gives a short summary of the first part. Then in Sec. VI, we show at the leading order of HPE that these meson states appear in the ground state of this theory, which is the eigenstate of the “transfer matrix” \hat{T} with the largest eigenvalue. The transfer matrix is the time translation operator on the lattice with one time unit and is related to the Hamiltonian H as $\hat{T} = e^{-aH}$. Then later in Sec. VII, we consider the higher order corrections of HPE and show that the strong coupling ground state and lattice meson states mix to form the true ground state, and at the K^6 order, the ground state of the transfer matrix shows nonzero genuine entanglement, and we end with discussion in Sec. VIII on our picture of how the strong coupling ground state, which has no entanglement, is connected to the continuum entangled ground state.

Throughout this paper,⁵ we consider $SU(N)$ gauge theory with $N \geq 3$.

II. ENTANGLEMENT ENTROPY FOR PURE GAUGE THEORY IN LATTICE FORMULATION

In this section, we briefly illustrate how the second terms of the entanglement entropy in Eq. (1.4) appear in the 2-dimensional pure gauge theory on the lattice formulation [14], using explicit examples.

We will consider the 7 vertex spatial lattice given in Fig. 1 as a simple example, which is good enough to see the essential points, and one can easily generalize the results in this section to more general cases.

Consider following wave function

$$\mathbf{R}(U) \equiv \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U) = \text{Tr}_{\mathbf{F}}(U) (U \equiv U_{12}U_{23}U_{34}U_{45}U_{56}U_{67}U_{71}), \quad (2.1)$$

where $U_{ij} \in SU(N)$ is the spatial gauge link variable between the vertices i and j , which satisfies $U_{ji} \equiv U_{ij}^\dagger$,

³Unless we take large N limit [15].

⁴The massless theory or the continuum limit with the finite mass corresponds to $K = 1/2$, its maximum value.

⁵For $N = 2$ case, the analysis, especially in Sec. IV, is slightly modified since meson is un-oriented due to the fact that fundamental = antifundamental for $SU(2)$.

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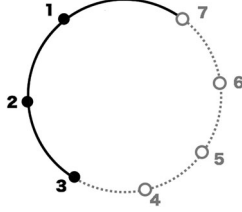


FIG. 1. Toy seven vertex lattice setup. Black vertices and solid lines belongs to inside and white vertices and dotted lines to outside.

and $\chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U)$ is the character for the ‘fundamental representation’ \mathbf{F} .⁶

Straightforward calculation shows that the reduced density matrix becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle U_{12}, U_{23}, U_{71} | \rho | V_{12}, V_{23}, V_{71} \rangle \\ &= \int dW_{34} dW_{45} dW_{56} dW_{67} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{71} U_{12} U_{23} W_{34} W_{45} W_{56} W_{67}) \\ & \times \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(W_{67}^{\dagger} W_{56}^{\dagger} W_{45}^{\dagger} W_{34}^{\dagger} V_{23}^{\dagger} V_{12}^{\dagger} V_{71}^{\dagger}) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{71} U_{12} U_{23} V_{23}^{\dagger} V_{12}^{\dagger} V_{71}^{\dagger}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

where we used (6.19) and integrated out outside-link variables W_{34} , W_{45} , W_{56} , W_{67} . Therefore the square of the reduced density matrix is

$$\begin{aligned} \langle U_{12}, U_{23}, U_{71} | \rho^2 | V_{12}, V_{23}, V_{71} \rangle &= \frac{1}{N^2} \int dW_{12} dW_{23} dW_{71} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{71} U_{12} U_{23} W_{23}^{\dagger} W_{12}^{\dagger} W_{71}^{\dagger}) \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(W_{71} W_{12} W_{23} V_{23}^{\dagger} V_{12}^{\dagger} V_{71}^{\dagger}) \\ &= \frac{1}{N^3} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{71} U_{12} U_{23} V_{23}^{\dagger} V_{12}^{\dagger} V_{71}^{\dagger}) \\ &= \frac{1}{N^2} \langle U_{12}, U_{23}, U_{71} | \rho | V_{12}, V_{23}, V_{71} \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

where again we used (6.19). This implies

$$\text{Tr} \rho^n = \frac{1}{N^{2(n-1)}}. \quad (2.4)$$

As a result, we obtain an entanglement entropy S_{EE} as

$$S_{EE} \equiv -\text{Tr} \rho \log \rho = -\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \text{Tr} \rho^n = 2 \log N = n_b \log N. \quad (2.5)$$

This is consistent with the ‘‘area-law’’ of the entanglement entropy [17], where the boundary is consists of two sites, i.e., site 3 and 7, so the ‘‘boundary site number’’ $n_b = 2$. To see this further, as an example of $n_b = 4$, we consider a different separation of in and out regions in such a way that link 2-3 and 5-6 are outside and others are inside. Then using (6.19) and (6.20), it is straightforward to check the reduced density matrix and its square become

$$\begin{aligned} \langle U_{\text{in}} | \rho | V_{\text{in}} \rangle &= \int dW_{23} dW_{56} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{71} U_{12} W_{23} U_{34} U_{45} W_{56} U_{67}) \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(V_{67}^{\dagger} W_{56}^{\dagger} V_{45}^{\dagger} V_{34}^{\dagger} W_{23}^{\dagger} V_{12}^{\dagger} V_{71}^{\dagger}) \\ &= \frac{1}{N^2} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{67} U_{71} U_{12} V_{12}^{\dagger} V_{71}^{\dagger} V_{67}^{\dagger}) \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{34} U_{45} V_{45}^{\dagger} V_{34}^{\dagger}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle U_{\text{in}} | \rho^2 | V_{\text{in}} \rangle &= \frac{1}{N^4} \int dW_{12} dW_{71} dW_{67} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{67} U_{71} U_{12} W_{12}^{\dagger} W_{71}^{\dagger} W_{67}^{\dagger}) \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(W_{67} W_{71} W_{12} V_{12}^{\dagger} V_{71}^{\dagger} V_{67}^{\dagger}) \\ & \times \int dW_{34} dW_{45} \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{34} U_{45} W_{45}^{\dagger} W_{34}^{\dagger}) \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(W_{34} W_{45} V_{45}^{\dagger} V_{34}^{\dagger}) \\ &= \frac{1}{N^4} \langle U_{\text{in}} | \rho | V_{\text{in}} \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

so that we obtain

⁶We take the temporal gauge $A_0 = 0$ throughout this paper. As will be seen later, this $\mathbf{R}(U)$ is the eigenfunction of the transfer matrix [14].

$$S_{EE} = 4 \log N = n_b \log N, \quad (2.8)$$

for $n_b = 4$. It is easy to see in general that

$$S_{EE} = n_b \log d_{\mathbf{R}}, \quad (2.9)$$

where $d_{\mathbf{R}}$ is the dimension of the irreducible representation \mathbf{R} . These are the essential results of [5,14]. Before we end this section, we have several comments.

Since there is no physical degrees of freedoms in the 2-dimensional pure gauge theory, the result (2.9) cannot represent the genuine entanglement in the spirit of the information theory, which is equivalent to the number of Bell pairs obtained in the entanglement distillation. See Sec. 4 of [6], for example.

All calculations in the above are done in the extended Hilbert space definition [4–6]. The Hilbert space in the gauge theory cannot be written as a tensor product of inside Hilbert space and outside Hilbert space. In the above calculations, however, we trace over all of the out states without worrying about the gauge constraint. This is possible *only* in the extended Hilbert space.

In the extended Hilbert space, we can define the entanglement entropy, which consists of three contributions as is given (1.4). Different superselection sectors are distinguished by the electric flux for the Abelian gauge theory and by the quadratic Casimir for the non-Abelian gauge theory at each boundary, and the different Casimir corresponds to the different “spin,” or representation. Due to the Gauss’s law in 1 + 1 dimension, we have only one sector, $p_{\mathbf{F}} = 1$, in our wave function (2.1), restricted in the fundamental representation. Therefore (2.9) gives only the second term in (1.4), as the first and the third term in (1.4) vanish.

Clearly this entanglement entropy (2.9) is associated with the fact that in and out link variables connected with each other at the boundary vertex cannot take values freely due to the gauge invariance constraint, and this gauge invariance correlates the two link variables. As a result, this correlation produces the entanglement obtained in (2.9), which is the “color entanglement.”

III. ENTANGLEMENT ENTROPY FOR SINGLE MESON STATES

A. 2d gauge theory with the fundamental scalar field

Now we consider the 2-dimensional gauge theory with the fundamental scalar field. Again we consider the Fig. 1 lattice setup. For each vertex n , there is a scalar field φ_n , in addition to the link variable $U_{ij} \equiv U_{ji}^\dagger$ on each link (ij) .

Let us consider the following wave function,

$$\Psi(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) \equiv \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} [\varphi_1^\dagger U_{12} U_{23} U_{34} U_{45} \varphi_5] \prod_{m=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_m^\dagger \varphi_m}, \quad (3.1)$$

$$|\mathcal{N}|^2 = \frac{N}{\gamma^2} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{7N}, \quad (3.2)$$

where \mathcal{N} is the normalization constant. This is a single “meson” state composed by a scalar “quark” (at site $n = 1$) and “antiquark” (at site $n = 5$) pair. For the wave function of the scalar field to be normalizable, we have introduced the Gaussian suppression factor $\propto e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi^\dagger \varphi}$ with the Gaussian parameter γ . The normalization constant \mathcal{N} is obtained from the condition

$$1 = \int [d\varphi_1 d\varphi_2 \cdots d\varphi_7] \int [dU_{12} dU_{23} \cdots dU_{71}] \Psi^*(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) \Psi(\varphi_i, U_{ij}),$$

where we use (A1) and (A10). Similarly, using (A1), (A2), and (3.2), the reduced density matrix $\rho(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}})$ becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) &= \int [d\tilde{\varphi}_4 \cdots d\tilde{\varphi}_7] \int [dW_{34} \cdots dW_{67}] \Phi(\varphi_{\text{in}}, \tilde{\varphi}_{\text{out}}; U_{\text{in}}, W_{\text{out}}) \Phi^*(\phi_{\text{in}}, \tilde{\varphi}_{\text{out}}; V_{\text{in}}, W_{\text{out}}) \\ &= \frac{\gamma}{N} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-3N} \left[(\varphi_1^\dagger U_{12} V_{12}^\dagger \phi_1) \prod_{n=1}^3 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n - \frac{\gamma}{2} \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

and a square of the reduced density matrix thus is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho^2(\varphi, U; \phi, V) &= \int [d\tilde{\varphi} dW] \rho(\varphi, U; \tilde{\varphi}, W) \rho(\tilde{\varphi}, W; \phi, V) \\
 &= \left[\frac{\gamma}{N} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-3N} \right]^2 \prod_{n=1}^3 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n - \frac{\gamma}{2} \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n} \int [d\tilde{\varphi} dW] (\varphi_1^\dagger U_{12} W_{12}^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_1) (\tilde{\varphi}_1^\dagger W_{12} V_{12}^\dagger \phi_1) e^{-\gamma(\tilde{\varphi}_1^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_1 + \tilde{\varphi}_2^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_2 + \tilde{\varphi}_3^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_3)} \\
 &= \left[\frac{\gamma}{N} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-3N} \right]^2 \prod_{n=1}^3 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n - \frac{\gamma}{2} \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n} (\varphi_1^\dagger U_{12})_c (V_{12}^\dagger \phi_1)^b \int [d\tilde{\varphi}_2 d\tilde{\varphi}_3] e^{-\gamma(\tilde{\varphi}_2^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_2 + \tilde{\varphi}_3^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_3)} \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_d \delta^c_b \\
 &\quad \times \int [d\tilde{\varphi}_1] \tilde{\varphi}_1^d \tilde{\varphi}_1^\dagger{}_a e^{-\gamma(\tilde{\varphi}_1^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_1)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \rho(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}), \tag{3.4}
 \end{aligned}$$

where we have performed the W_{12} integral using the formula (A10) in the third equality, and then the φ integral using (A2) in the fourth equality. From Eq. (3.4), the entanglement entropy is obtained as

$$S_{EE}^{\text{Fund.}} = -\text{Tr} \rho \log \rho = \log N. \tag{3.5}$$

Here $\log N$ simply represents the color charge entanglement between scalar quark and antiquark in the fundamental representation.

A few comments are in order.

- (i) This $\log N$ term corresponds to the second term of (1.4). First of all, since a color is neither physical nor observable, this term cannot be the genuine entanglement related to the Bell pair, i.e., the third term in (1.4). A reason why Eq. (3.5) does not satisfy the area-law of the entanglement is simply because the flux takes the fundamental representation at the “boundary vertex” 3 only but the trivial representation at the “boundary vertex” 7. Furthermore, since we have already fixed the representation in this setup, the first term of (1.4) cannot appear in Eq. (3.5).
- (ii) We can easily show the following. The entanglement entropy is given again by (3.5) for the wave functions

$$\varphi_5^\dagger U_{56} U_{67} U_{71} \varphi_1, \tag{3.6}$$

instead of (3.1), while it vanishes if all fields (quark, antiquark and all link variables) belong to either inside or outside such that

$$\varphi_1^\dagger \varphi_1, \quad \varphi_1^\dagger U_{12} U_{23} \varphi_3, \quad \varphi_4^\dagger U_{45} U_{56} U_{67} \varphi_7, \tag{3.7}$$

as expected.

- (iii) The situation is very similar to the pure gauge theory in Sec. II. Regarding that the link variable $U_{56}^c{}_d$ made up of two scalar fields φ_5^c and φ_{6d}^\dagger as $U_{56}^c{}_d \approx \varphi_5^c \varphi_{6d}^\dagger$, the result in Eq. (2.5) can be understood as follows. The argument of \log for the entanglement entropy is the dimensions of the representation, i.e., the entanglement associated with color numbers. The coefficient in front of $\log N$ counts a number of boundary vertices in which the gauge flux penetrates. As we will see in the next subsection, the adjoint matter field gives the $\log(N^2 - 1)$ instead of $\log N$ contribution to the entanglement entropy.

B. 2d gauge theory with the adjoint scalar field

For completeness, we show the result with the adjoint matter field Φ . We take

$$\Psi(\Phi_i, U_{ij}) = \frac{1}{N} [\chi(\Phi_1 U_{12} U_{23} U_{34} U_{45} \Phi_5 U_{45}^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger U_{23}^\dagger U_{12}^\dagger)] \prod_{i=1}^7 e^{-\beta \text{Tr} \Phi_i^2}, \tag{3.8}$$

for the wave function with the adjoint scalar field Φ at the vertex 1 and 5, where β is the Gaussian suppression factor. The lattice setup is same as Fig. 1.

Applying (A7) and (A11) to the condition

$$1 = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}|^2} \int [d\Phi] [dU] \chi(\Phi_1 U_{12} U_{23} U_{34} U_{45} \Phi_5 U_{45}^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger U_{23}^\dagger U_{12}^\dagger) \chi(\Phi_1 U_{12} U_{23} U_{34} U_{45} \Phi_5 U_{45}^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger U_{23}^\dagger U_{12}^\dagger) \prod_{i=1}^7 e^{-2\beta \text{Tr} \Phi_i^2}, \tag{3.9}$$

the normalization constant is determined as

$$\frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}|^2} = \frac{16\beta^2}{N^2 - 1} \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\beta}{\pi}} \right)^{7(N^2-1)}. \quad (3.10)$$

Then, the reduced density matrix is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \tilde{\Phi}_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}} | \rho | \Phi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}} \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}|^2} \prod_{i=1}^3 e^{-\beta \text{Tr} \Phi_i^2 - \beta \text{Tr} \tilde{\Phi}_i^2} \int [dX_{4,6,7}] \prod_{i=4,6,7} e^{-2\beta \text{Tr} X_i^2} \int [dW] [dX_5] \chi(\Phi_1 U_{12} U_{23} W_{34} W_{45} X_5 W_{45}^\dagger W_{34}^\dagger U_{23}^\dagger U_{12}^\dagger) \\ & \quad \times \chi(\tilde{\Phi}_1 V_{12} V_{23} W_{34} W_{45} X_5 W_{45}^\dagger W_{34}^\dagger V_{23}^\dagger V_{12}^\dagger) e^{-2\beta \text{Tr} X_5^2} \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{4\beta}{N^2 - 1} \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\beta}{\pi}} \right)^{3(N^2-1)}}_{:=A} \chi(U_{23}^\dagger U_{12}^\dagger \Phi_1 U_{12} U_{23} V_{23}^\dagger V_{12}^\dagger \tilde{\Phi}_1 V_{12} V_{23}) \prod_{i=1}^3 e^{-\beta \text{Tr} \Phi_i^2 - \beta \text{Tr} \tilde{\Phi}_i^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

and its square becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \tilde{\Phi}_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}} | \rho^2 | \Phi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}} \rangle \\ &= A^2 \int [dX_2] [dX_3] \prod_{i=2,3} e^{-2\beta \text{Tr} X_i^2} \int [dX_1] [dW] \chi(U_{23}^\dagger U_{12}^\dagger \Phi_1 U_{12} U_{23} W_{23}^\dagger W_{12}^\dagger X_1 W_{12} W_{23}) \\ & \quad \times \chi(W_{23}^\dagger W_{12}^\dagger X_1 W_{12} W_{23} V_{23}^\dagger V_{12}^\dagger \tilde{\Phi}_1 V_{12} V_{23}) e^{-2\beta \text{Tr} X_1^2} \prod_{i=1}^3 e^{-\beta \text{Tr} \Phi_i^2 - \beta \text{Tr} \tilde{\Phi}_i^2} \\ &= A \frac{4\beta}{N^2 - 1} \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\beta}{\pi}} \right)^{3(N^2-1)} \frac{1}{4\beta} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\beta}} \right)^{3(N^2-1)} \\ & \quad \times \chi(U_{23}^\dagger U_{12}^\dagger \Phi_1 U_{12} U_{23} V_{23}^\dagger V_{12}^\dagger \tilde{\Phi}_1 V_{12} V_{23}) \prod_{i=1}^3 e^{-\beta \text{Tr} \Phi_i^2 - \beta \text{Tr} \tilde{\Phi}_i^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{N^2 - 1} \langle \tilde{\Phi}_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}} | \rho | \Phi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}} \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

Therefore, the entanglement entropy is obtained as

$$S_{EE} = \log(N^2 - 1), \quad (3.13)$$

which confirms that the argument of log counts a dimension of the representation for the flux at the boundary vertex.

C. Entanglement entropy for a single meson with the multiple splitting

Let us consider the situation where vertices 1,2,4,5 and links (12),(23),(45),(56) belong to inside and the rest belong to outside. See Fig. 2.

Let us consider the following wave function

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) &\equiv \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} [\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} U_{34} U_{45} U_{56} U_{67} \varphi_7] \\ &\quad \times \prod_{m=1,2,4,5} e^{-\frac{a}{2} \varphi_m^\dagger \varphi_m} \prod_{n=3,6,7} e^{-\frac{a}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

$$\frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}|^2} = \frac{a^2}{N} \left(\frac{\pi}{a} \right)^{-7N}. \quad (3.15)$$

It is straightforward to show

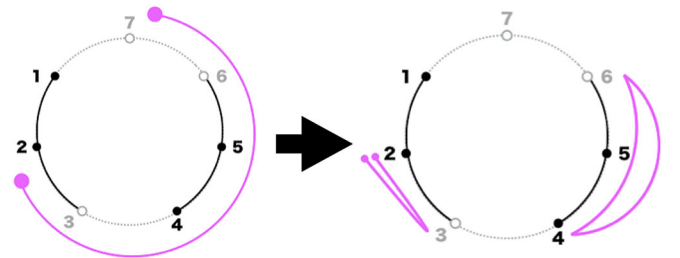


FIG. 2. Black vertices and solid lines belong to inside and white vertices and dotted lines to outside as before. Scalar quark/antiquark are at vertices 2 and 7 and gluon is penetrating at the boundary vertices 3, 4, and 6 but not 1. The color indices for the reduced density matrix can be seen pictorially in the right figure.

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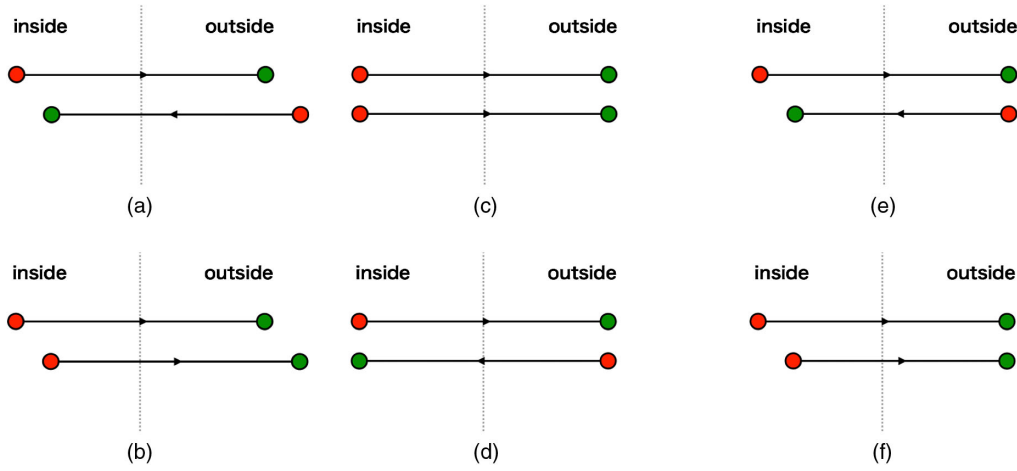


FIG. 3. Two meson configurations which we consider in this subsection.

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{\text{in}} &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}|^2} \int [d\tilde{\varphi} dW] (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} W_{34} U_{45} U_{56} W_{67} \tilde{\varphi}_7) (\tilde{\varphi}_7^\dagger W_{67}^\dagger V_{56}^\dagger V_{45}^\dagger W_{34}^\dagger V_{23}^\dagger \phi_2) \\ &\quad \times e^{-a(\tilde{\varphi}_3^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_3 + \tilde{\varphi}_6^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_6 + \tilde{\varphi}_7^\dagger \tilde{\varphi}_7)} e^{-\frac{a}{2}(\varphi_1^\dagger \varphi_1 + \varphi_2^\dagger \varphi_2 + \varphi_4^\dagger \varphi_4 + \varphi_5^\dagger \varphi_5) - \frac{a}{2}(\phi_1^\dagger \phi_1 + \phi_2^\dagger \phi_2 + \phi_4^\dagger \phi_4 + \phi_5^\dagger \phi_5)} \\ &= \frac{a}{N^2} \left(\frac{\pi}{a} \right)^{-4N} (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} V_{23}^\dagger \phi_2) [\chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U_{45} U_{56} V_{56}^\dagger V_{45}^\dagger)] e^{-\frac{a}{2}(\varphi_1^\dagger \varphi_1 + \varphi_2^\dagger \varphi_2 + \varphi_4^\dagger \varphi_4 + \varphi_5^\dagger \varphi_5) - \frac{a}{2}(\phi_1^\dagger \phi_1 + \phi_2^\dagger \phi_2 + \phi_4^\dagger \phi_4 + \phi_5^\dagger \phi_5)}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

This reduced density matrix can be shown pictorially in Fig. 2. We thus obtain

$$\rho_{\text{in}}^2 = \frac{1}{N^3} \rho_{\text{in}}, \quad (3.17)$$

$$S_{EE} = 3 \log N, \quad (3.18)$$

which is again consistent with the second term in (1.4), since a number of boundaries on which the penetrating flux of the fundamental representation exists is $n_b = 3$ (at vertices 3, 4, and 6). The boundary 1 does not contribute since there is no penetrating flux there.

So far, we obtain the entanglement entropy

$$S_{EE} = n_b \log d_{\mathbf{R}}, \quad (3.19)$$

where $d_{\mathbf{R}}$ is the dimension of the representation \mathbf{R} , and n_b is the number of boundaries on which there is nontrivial flux in the representation \mathbf{R} of the gauge group.

IV. ENTANGLEMENT FOR MULTIPLE MESON STATES

We next consider multiple meson states and evaluate their entanglement entropy. In Sec. IV A, we first consider a two meson state where two meson excitations do not overlap each other. Next in Sec. IV B, we consider a various types of overlapped two meson states whose excited fluxes go through the same boundary. We classify these states as in Fig. 3, and consider the entanglement

entropy for all of these cases. In Sec. IV C, we consider a four meson state where all excited fluxes penetrate the same boundary.

One of the main differences between these multiple meson excitations and single meson excitations in the previous section is that we need to decompose the product of the same link variables of multiple meson excitations at the same boundary into a sum of irreducible representations. As a results of this decomposition, we have several different superselection sectors, labeled by the irreducible representation \mathbf{R} of the penetrating flux. This results in nonzero contribution to the first term of the entanglement entropy in (1.4), which is the Shannon entropy associated with the superselection sector distribution.

In this section, we again use the lattice setup in Fig. 1.

A. Two mesons without overlapping

We first consider a two meson state without overlap. Explicitly, let us consider the following wave function,

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) &= \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} (\varphi_5^\dagger U_{56} U_{67} U_{71} \varphi_1) (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} U_{34} \varphi_4) \prod_{i=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_i^\dagger \varphi_i}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

$$|\mathcal{N}|^{-2} = \left(\frac{\gamma^2}{N} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-7N}. \quad (4.2)$$

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A straightforward calculation shows that the reduced density matrix and its square are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{\text{in}}(\varphi, U; \phi, V) &= \left(\frac{\gamma}{N}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-3N} (\phi_1^\dagger V_{71}^\dagger U_{71} \phi_1) (\phi_2^\dagger U_{23} V_{23}^\dagger \phi_2) \\ &\times \prod_{i=1}^3 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \phi_i^\dagger \varphi_i - \frac{\gamma}{2} \phi_i^\dagger \phi_i}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

$$\rho_{\text{in}}^2(\varphi, U; \phi, V) = \frac{1}{N^2} \rho_{\text{in}}(\varphi, U; \phi, V), \quad (4.4)$$

Thus the entanglement entropy is

$$S_{EE} = \log N^2 = 2 \log N, \quad (4.5)$$

which is simply the twice of the single meson result (3.5), and can be understood from (3.19).

B. Two mesons sharing the same boundary

We next consider several types of two overlapping meson states whose excited fluxes penetrate the same boundary, as shown in Fig. 3.

1. Case (a): Opposite meson direction with 4 (anti)quarks at different positions

Let us consider the following state corresponding to Fig. 3(a),

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_a(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) &= \frac{1}{N_a} (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} U_{34} U_{45} \varphi_5) (\varphi_6^\dagger U_{56}^\dagger U_{45}^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3) \prod_{n=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

$$|\mathcal{N}_a|^{-2} = \left(\frac{\gamma^2}{N}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-7N}. \quad (4.7)$$

Overlapping links need to be decomposed into a sum of irreducible representations. Explicitly, let us consider the link variable between 3 and 4 vertices. Since there are one fundamental (U_{34}) and one antifundamental (U_{34}^\dagger) links, this state split into a sum of “singlet” and “adjoint” states as follows. Let us first rewrite our state as

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_a(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) &= \frac{1}{N_a} (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}) (\varphi_{6 \rightarrow 4}^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3) \prod_{n=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.8)$$

where $\varphi_{i \rightarrow j}$'s are defined by

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$$(\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger)_a \equiv (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23})_a, \quad (4.9)$$

$$(\varphi_{6 \rightarrow 4}^\dagger)_a \equiv (\varphi_6^\dagger U_{56}^\dagger U_{45}^\dagger)_a, \quad (4.10)$$

$$(\varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5})^a \equiv (U_{45} \varphi_5)^a. \quad (4.11)$$

We then decompose this state as

$$\begin{aligned} &(\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}) (\varphi_{6 \rightarrow 4}^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3) \\ &= (\Phi_{23}^\dagger)^j{}_a (\Phi_{46})^b{}_i \left((U_{34})^a{}_b (U_{34}^\dagger)^i{}_j - \frac{1}{N} \delta^a{}_j \delta^i{}_b \right) \\ &+ \frac{1}{N} (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger \varphi_3) (\varphi_{6 \rightarrow 4}^\dagger \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}), \end{aligned} \quad (4.12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} (\Phi_{23}^\dagger)^j{}_a &\equiv \left[(\varphi_3)^j (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger)_a - \frac{1}{N} \delta^j{}_a (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger \varphi_3) \right], \\ (\Phi_{46})^b{}_i &\equiv \left[\varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}^b (\varphi_{6 \rightarrow 4}^\dagger)_i - \frac{1}{N} \delta^b{}_i \varphi_{6 \rightarrow 4}^\dagger \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.13)$$

As mentioned, the first and the second terms in the r.h.s. of (4.12) represent the adjoint and the singlet states, respectively.

The reduced density matrix for this state becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{\text{in}}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) &= \frac{1}{N^2} \rho_{(1)}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) \\ &+ \left(1 - \frac{1}{N^2} \right) \rho_{(\text{adj})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}), \end{aligned} \quad (4.14)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{(1)}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) &= \frac{\gamma^2}{N} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-4N} (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} \varphi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger V_{23}^\dagger \phi_2) \prod_{n=1}^4 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n - \frac{\gamma}{2} \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.15)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{(\text{adj})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) &= \frac{\gamma^2}{N^2 - 1} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-4N} (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} V_{23}^\dagger \phi_2) (\phi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) \prod_{n=1}^4 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n - \frac{\gamma}{2} \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n} \\ &- \frac{1}{N^2 - 1} \rho_{(1)}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}), \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

and these matrices satisfy

$$\text{Tr} \rho_{(1)} = \text{Tr} \rho_{(\text{adj})} = 1, \quad \rho_{(1)}^2 = \rho_{(1)}, \quad (4.17a)$$

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$$\rho_{(\text{adj})}^2 = \frac{1}{N^2 - 1} \rho_{(\text{adj})}, \quad \rho_{(1)} \rho_{(\text{adj})} = \rho_{(\text{adj})} \rho_{(1)} = 0. \quad (4.17b)$$

Using these relations, the entanglement entropy for this state Ψ_a is given by⁷

$$\begin{aligned} S_{EE} &= -\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \text{Tr} \rho^n \\ &= -\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \sum_{\mathbf{R}} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left(\frac{1}{N^{2n}} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N^2}\right)^n \left(\frac{1}{N^2 - 1}\right)^{n-1} \right) \\ &= -\left\{ \frac{1}{N^2} \log \frac{1}{N^2} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N^2}\right) \log \left(1 - \frac{1}{N^2}\right) \right\} \\ &\quad + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N^2}\right) \log(N^2 - 1) \\ &= \log N^2. \end{aligned} \quad (4.18)$$

In the third line, the first two terms correspond to the Shannon entropy for the superselection sector distribution ($p_{(1)} = 1/N^2$ and $p_{(\text{adj})} = 1 - 1/N^2$), i.e., the first term in (1.4), while the third term corresponds to the dimension of the adjoint representation, i.e., the second term in (1.4). On the other hand, since the genuine entanglement, the third term in (1.4), is absent here, we cannot extract any Bell pairs from this state.

2. Case (b): Two excited mesons in the same direction with 4 (anti)quarks at different positions

Instead of the wave function (4.6), we next consider the state

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_b(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) &= \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_b} (\varphi_2^\dagger U_{23} U_{34} U_{45} \varphi_5) (\varphi_3^\dagger U_{34} U_{45} U_{56} \varphi_6) \prod_{n=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.19)$$

$$|\mathcal{N}_b|^{-2} = \left(\frac{\gamma^2}{N}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-7N}, \quad (4.20)$$

where quark-antiquark pairs lie in the same direction as Fig. 3(b). In this case, we can decompose the state into “symmetric” and “antisymmetric” states. Similarly to the previous case, the reduced density matrix becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{\text{in}}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \varphi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) &= \frac{N+1}{2N} \rho_{(\text{sym})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \varphi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) \\ &\quad + \frac{N-1}{2N} \rho_{(\text{asym})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \varphi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}), \end{aligned} \quad (4.21)$$

⁷We here use $\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{\partial A^n}{\partial n} = A \log A$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{\partial A^{n-1}}{\partial n} = \log A$.

where these matrices satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr} \rho_{(\text{sym})} &= \text{Tr} \rho_{(\text{asym})} = 1, \\ \rho_{(\text{sym})}^2 &= \frac{2}{N(N+1)} \rho_{(\text{sym})}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.22a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{(\text{asym})}^2 &= \frac{2}{N(N-1)} \rho_{(\text{asym})}, \\ \rho_{(\text{sym})} \rho_{(\text{asym})} &= \rho_{(\text{asym})} \rho_{(\text{sym})} = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4.22b)$$

Therefore the entanglement entropy for Ψ_b is evaluated as

$$\begin{aligned} S_{EE} &= -\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \sum_{\mathbf{R}} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left\{ \left(\frac{N+1}{2N}\right)^n \left(\frac{2}{N(N+1)}\right)^{n-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left(\frac{N-1}{2N}\right)^n \left(\frac{2}{N(N-1)}\right)^{n-1} \right\} \\ &= -\left\{ \frac{N+1}{2N} \log \frac{N+1}{2N} + \frac{N-1}{2N} \log \frac{N-1}{2N} \right\} \\ &\quad + \left\{ \frac{N+1}{2N} \log \frac{N(N+1)}{2} + \frac{N-1}{2N} \log \frac{N(N-1)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \log N^2. \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

The result is very similar to the previous case: The first two terms in the second equality correspond to the Shannon entropy for the superselection sector distribution with $p_{\text{sym}} = (N+1)/(2N)$ and $p_{\text{asym}} = (N-1)/(2N)$, and the next two terms correspond to the color entanglement with $d_{\text{sym}} = N(N+1)/2$ and $d_{\text{asym}} = N(N-1)/2$, while there are no Bell pairs in this state.

3. Case (c) and (d): 4 (anti)quarks at the same positions

In the previous two examples, that entanglement entropy for two mesons in different quark-antiquark positions is $\log N^2$, which however does not contain any Bell pairs. We here consider two meson states in the same (anti)quark positions, which are shown to have the different entanglement entropy. However, again all contributions come from non-Bell pair parts.

Let us consider the following two wave functions,

$$\Psi_c(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_c} (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5})^2 \prod_{n=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \quad (4.24)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_d(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) &= \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_d} (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}) (\varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}) \prod_{n=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.25)$$

$$|\mathcal{N}_c|^{-2} = |\mathcal{N}_d|^{-2} = \frac{\gamma^4}{2N(N+1)} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-7N}, \quad (4.26)$$

which correspond to two meson excitations in the same and opposite directions at the same (anti)quark positions, in Fig. 3(c) and (d), respectively.

The reduced density matrices for these states become

$$\rho_{c,\text{in}}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) = \rho_{(\text{sym})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}), \quad (4.27)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{d,\text{in}}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) &= \frac{N+1}{2N} \rho_{(1)}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) \\ &+ \frac{N-1}{2N} \rho_{(\text{adj})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}). \end{aligned} \quad (4.28)$$

where $\rho_{(\text{sym})}$ satisfies the relation (4.22a), while $\rho_{(1)}$ and $\rho_{(\text{adj})}$ satisfy the relation (4.17). Note that ρ_c does not have $\rho_{(\text{asym})}$ since identical scalars cannot form antisymmetric combinations. Similar calculations as before give the entanglement entropy as

$$S_{c,EE} = \log \frac{N(N+1)}{2}, \quad (4.29)$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_{d,EE} &= -\left\{ \frac{N+1}{2N} \log \left(\frac{N+1}{2N} \right) + \frac{N-1}{2N} \log \left(\frac{N-1}{2N} \right) \right\} \\ &+ \frac{N-1}{2N} \log(N^2 - 1). \end{aligned} \quad (4.30)$$

For the case (c) in the same direction, the entanglement entropy is given solely by the color entanglement of the symmetric representation without Shannon entropy for the superselection sector distribution, while for the case (d) in the opposite direction, both Shannon part and the color entanglement part appear. Again there is no Bell pair in both cases.

4. Case (e) and (f): Only 2 (anti)quarks at the same position

To make the classification complete, we consider the following wave functions,

$$\Psi_e(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_e} (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}) (\varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3) \prod_{n=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \quad (4.31)$$

$$\Psi_f(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_f} (\varphi_{2 \rightarrow 3}^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}) (\varphi_3^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_{4 \rightarrow 5}) \prod_{n=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n}, \quad (4.32)$$

$$|\mathcal{N}_e|^{-2} = |\mathcal{N}_f|^{-2} = \frac{\gamma^4}{N(N+1)} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-7N}, \quad (4.33)$$

where mesons are in the opposite and the same directions with 2 (anti)quarks are at the same position, corresponding to Fig. 3(e) and (f), respectively.

The reduced density matrices become

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{e,\text{in}}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) &= \frac{1}{N} \rho_{(1)}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) \\ &+ \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \rho_{(\text{adj})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}), \end{aligned} \quad (4.34)$$

$$\rho_{f,\text{in}}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}) = \rho_{(\text{sym})}(\varphi_{\text{in}}, U_{\text{in}}; \phi_{\text{in}}, V_{\text{in}}), \quad (4.35)$$

where $\rho_{(1)}$, $\rho_{(\text{adj})}$, and $\rho_{(\text{sym})}$ satisfy the relation (4.17) and (4.22a). The resultant entanglement entropy becomes

$$\begin{aligned} S_{e,EE} &= -\left\{ \frac{1}{N} \log \frac{1}{N} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \log \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \right\} \\ &+ \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \log(N^2 - 1), \end{aligned} \quad (4.36)$$

$$S_{f,EE} = \log \frac{N(N+1)}{2}. \quad (4.37)$$

Again, for the case (f) in the same direction, is given solely by the color entanglement of the symmetric representation without Shannon entropy part, while for the case (e) in the opposite direction, both the Shannon part and the color entanglement part appear. Both states have no genuine entanglement.

C. Four mesons at the same position

Let us consider a more complicated example, four mesons at same position as is given in Fig. 4. Our wave function is

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\varphi, U) &= \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} [\varphi_3^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_4]^2 [\varphi_4^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3]^2 \prod_{i=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_i^\dagger \varphi_i} \\ &= \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2 (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 \prod_{i=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2} \varphi_i^\dagger \varphi_i}, \\ |\mathcal{N}|^{-2} &= \frac{\gamma^8}{4!N(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma}\right)^{-7N}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.38)$$

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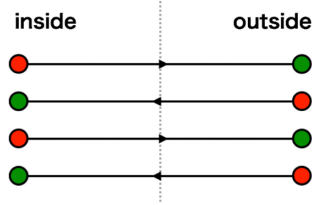


FIG. 4. Four mesons we consider in this subsection. For simplicity, we consider the case that a distance between quark and antiquark is one lattice spacing for all four mesons.

where we define $\varphi \equiv \varphi_3$ and $\phi \equiv U_{34}\varphi_4$. We will omit the damping factor such as $\prod_{i=1}^7 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2}\varphi_i^\dagger\varphi_i}$ from now on just for simplicity.

One can decompose our wave function as follows.

$$\Psi(\varphi, U) = \frac{1}{N} \left(\Psi_1(\varphi, U) + \Psi_{N^2-1}(\varphi, U) + \Psi_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)}(\varphi, U) \right), \quad (4.39)$$

where

$$\Psi_1(\varphi, U) = \frac{2}{N(N+1)} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3)^2 (\varphi_4^\dagger \varphi_4)^2, \quad (4.40)$$

$$\Psi_{N^2-1}(\varphi, U) = \frac{4}{N+2} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\varphi_4^\dagger \varphi_4) [(\varphi_3^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_4) (\varphi_4^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3) - \frac{1}{N} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\varphi_4^\dagger \varphi_4)], \quad (4.41)$$

$$\Psi_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)}(\varphi, U) = (\varphi_3^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_4)^2 (\varphi_4^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3)^2 - \frac{2}{N+2} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\varphi_4^\dagger \varphi_4) \times \left[2(\varphi_3^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_4) (\varphi_4^\dagger U_{34}^\dagger \varphi_3) - \frac{1}{N+1} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\varphi_4^\dagger \varphi_4) \right]. \quad (4.42)$$

Here \mathbf{R} of $\Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\varphi, U)$ denotes the irreducible representation of $SU(N)$. Note that above Ψ_1 , Ψ_{N^2-1} and $\Psi_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)}$ are not normalized at this moment. Like the case (c) before for two mesons at the same position, anti-symmetric combinations disappear. See Appendix C for the derivation of (4.39). Since these wave functions are mutually orthogonal, our reduced density matrix also becomes the sum of each sector as

$$\rho(\varphi, \phi) = \sum_{\mathbf{R}} p_{\mathbf{R}} \rho_{\mathbf{R}}(\varphi, \phi), \quad (4.43)$$

where $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{1}, N^2 - 1$ and $\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)$.

From (4.40)–(4.42), together with the normalization that $\text{Tr} \rho_{\mathbf{R}} = 1$ for each $\rho_{\mathbf{R}}$, we obtain⁸

$$\rho_1(\varphi, \phi) = \frac{\gamma^4}{N(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3)^2 (\phi_3^\dagger \phi_3)^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-3N}, \quad (4.44)$$

$$\rho_{N^2-1}(\varphi, \phi) = \frac{\gamma^4}{(N^2-1)(N+2)(N+3)} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-3N} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \phi_3) \times \left[(\varphi_3^\dagger \phi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) - \frac{1}{N} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \phi_3) \right], \quad (4.45)$$

$$\rho_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)}(\varphi, \phi) = \frac{\gamma^4}{N^2(N-1)(N+3)} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-3N} \left[(\varphi_3^\dagger \phi_3)^2 (\phi_3^\dagger \varphi_3)^2 - \frac{4}{N+2} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \phi_3) \left((\varphi_3^\dagger \phi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) - \frac{1}{2(N+1)} (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \phi_3) \right) \right], \quad (4.46)$$

while (4.38) directly gives the reduced density matrix as

$$\rho(\varphi, \phi) = \frac{\gamma^4}{6N(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)} \left(\frac{\pi}{\gamma} \right)^{-3N} \times \left[(\varphi_3^\dagger \phi_3)^2 (\phi_3^\dagger \varphi_3)^2 + 4(\varphi_3^\dagger \phi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3) (\phi_3^\dagger \phi_3) + (\varphi_3^\dagger \varphi_3)^2 (\phi_3^\dagger \phi_3)^2 \right]. \quad (4.47)$$

A comparison of these with the formula (4.43) yields

$$p_1 = \frac{1}{6} \frac{(N+2)(N+3)}{N(N+1)}, \quad p_{N^2-1} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{(N-1)(N+3)}{N(N+2)}, \quad (4.48)$$

$$p_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)} = \frac{1}{6} \frac{N(N-1)}{(N+1)(N+2)}. \quad (4.49)$$

Since these density matrices satisfy the relation

$$\rho_{\mathbf{R}} \rho_{\mathbf{R}'} = \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} \delta_{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}'} \rho_{\mathbf{R}}, \quad (4.50)$$

⁸Here we omit the damping factor $\prod_{i=1}^3 e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2}(\varphi_i^\dagger \varphi_i + \phi_i^\dagger \phi_i)}$.

the resulting entanglement entropy for this state is given by

$$S_{EE} = -\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \text{Tr} \rho^n = -\lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \sum_{\mathbf{R}} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left(\frac{p_{\mathbf{R}}^n}{d_{\mathbf{R}}^{n-1}} \right) \\ = -\sum_{\mathbf{R}} p_{\mathbf{R}} \log p_{\mathbf{R}} + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} p_{\mathbf{R}} \log d_{\mathbf{R}}, \quad (4.51)$$

where $d_{\mathbf{R}}$ is the dimension of the irreducible representation \mathbf{R} . Equation (4.51) corresponds to Eq. (1.4) with the vanishing Bell pair term.

V. COMMENTS ON THREE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ENTANGLEMENT ENTROPY IN THE EXTENDED HILBERT SPACE

We have discussed the entanglement entropy for the $1+1$ dimensional non-Abelian gauge theory on the lattice. In the extended Hilbert space definition, we have three contributions to the entanglement entropy as (1.4). In this section, we illustrate these three contributions, by considering the following three examples: (1) two spins, (2) the Z_2 gauge theory on 1d spatial lattice and (3) the $SU(2)$ gauge theory with the fundamental scalar field on 1d spatial lattice. All of these examples give the same mathematical structure in the extended Hilbert space definition and result in the same values of entanglement entropy; however, the interpretation differs for each case. These viewpoints are probably not new for experts, but we think it is still useful to present it here.

A. Two spins

Let us consider two spins, whose Hilbert space is a tensor product of left and right spins and both of which takes two values (\pm), which is

$$\mathcal{H} = |\pm\rangle_{\text{left}} \otimes |\pm\rangle_{\text{right}} = \{|++\rangle, |+-\rangle, |-+\rangle, |--\rangle\}. \quad (5.1)$$

If we consider following specific state,

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |++\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |--\rangle, \quad (5.2)$$

clearly this gives entanglement entropy $S_{EE} = \log 2$. This represents the genuine entanglement since one can extract this by entanglement distillation.

B. Z_2 pure gauge theory on 1d spatial lattice

Instead of above two spins, let us consider a Z_2 pure gauge theory on the 1d spatial lattice. To simplify the argument, we take an extreme situation that the space is composed of only two links, (12) and (23), with the

$$|+\rangle_{\sigma_1} \cdot |+\rangle_{\sigma_1} \quad \text{or} \quad |-\rangle_{\sigma_1} \cdot |-\rangle_{\sigma_1}$$

FIG. 5. Due to the Gauss's law constraint, the physical Hilbert space is 2-dimensional for the Z_2 pure gauge theory on the 1d spatial lattice. Here \pm represent “electric fluxes,” which label superselection sectors.

periodic boundary condition (vertices 1 and 3 are identical). See Fig. 5. Each link variable U_{ij} takes \pm values and the corresponding basis is denoted by $|\pm\rangle_{\sigma_3}$, which satisfy $\hat{\sigma}_3 |\pm\rangle_{\sigma_3} = \pm |\pm\rangle_{\sigma_3}$, where Pauli $\hat{\sigma}_3$ is a link operator. The non-trivial gauge transformation is given by acting $\hat{\sigma}_1$ on both links (12) and (23). Here $\hat{\sigma}_1$ is the electric flux operator. See Sec. II of [4] for more detail. We have eigenfunctions of $\hat{\sigma}_1$,

$$|\pm\rangle_{\sigma_1} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+\rangle_{\sigma_3} \pm |-\rangle_{\sigma_3}), \quad (5.3)$$

where the eigenvalue \pm represents the electric flux on the corresponding link. Therefore, there exist only two independent gauge invariant states in this setup, which are given by $|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ or $|--\rangle_{\sigma_1}$. Note that states such as $|+-\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ or $|-+\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ are not allowed. It is not gauge invariant due to Gauss's law; the electric flux cannot take different values between (12) and (23).

However, in the extended Hilbert space, we allow nongauge invariant states, then the Hilbert space becomes

$$\mathcal{H} = \{|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}, |+-\rangle_{\sigma_1}, |-+\rangle_{\sigma_1}, |--\rangle_{\sigma_1}\}, \quad (5.4)$$

which gives the same structure as (5.1). Under this setup, let us consider the following specific state

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |++\rangle_{\sigma_1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |--\rangle_{\sigma_1}. \quad (5.5)$$

Clearly the state (5.5) shows the entanglement entropy $S_{EE} = \log 2$ in the extended Hilbert space definition due to mathematically the same structure as two spins case. However physical interpretation is different.

In *physical* Hilbert space, the two physical states $|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ and $|--\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ can not be mixed with each other by any “local” gauge invariant operation.⁹ This means that $|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ and $|--\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ belong to different superselection sectors. In addition, in physical Hilbert space, allowed states are $|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ and $|--\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ only. Therefore once we fix the superselection sector (either $+$ or $-$), then physical Hilbert space shows manifestly a tensor product structure

⁹For example, if one want to convert $|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ into $|--\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ by using only *local* operations, one must have unphysical $|+-\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ or $|-+\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ as a intermediate state.

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$$\begin{array}{cccc} |+\rangle & |+\rangle & + & |-\rangle & |-\rangle \\ \varphi_{\text{inside}} & \varphi_{\text{outside}} & & \varphi_{\text{inside}} & \varphi_{\text{outside}} \end{array}$$

FIG. 6. Due to gauge singlet condition for mesons, Hilbert space for quark-antiquark color configuration is 1-dimensional. \pm represent color charge.

between inside and outside. Therefore $S_{EE} = \log 2$ is not the genuine entanglement entropy, but rather should be interpreted as the distribution entropy associated with superselection sectors, which is given by

$$S = -\sum_i p_i \log p_i \quad \text{with} \quad p_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (5.6)$$

where \pm represents the electric flux at the boundary. This is a typical example of the first contribution in (1.4).

C. $SU(2)$ gauge theory with fundamental matter

Let us consider again 1d spatial lattice in Fig. 1, where vertices 1, 2, 3 and link (71), (12), (23) are inside and the rest are outside. We consider the wave function for the excited meson which is given by

$$\Psi(\varphi_i, U_{ij}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} [\varphi_3^\dagger U_{34} \varphi_4] = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} [\varphi_{\text{inside}}^\dagger a \varphi_{\text{outside}}^a], \quad (5.7)$$

where we omit the Gaussian factor for the normalization, but keep explicitly the color index $a = \pm$ in the fundamental representation. We denote $\varphi_3 = \varphi_{\text{inside}}$ and $\varphi_{\text{outside}} = U_{34} \varphi_4$, where link (34) and vertex 4 are both outside. This is the one we studied in Sec. III. Note that this wave function is gauge-singlet. We focus on the color degrees of freedom for $\varphi_{\text{inside}}^\dagger$ and φ_{outside} . Taking a map as

$$\varphi_{\text{inside}\pm}^\dagger \mapsto |\pm\rangle_{\text{inside}}, \quad (5.8a)$$

$$\varphi_{\text{outside}}^\pm \mapsto |\pm\rangle_{\text{outside}}, \quad (5.8b)$$

then the meson wave function (5.7) becomes

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |++\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |--\rangle. \quad (5.9)$$

See Fig. 6. Mathematical structure is the same as Sec. VB. In extended Hilbert space, we include gauge-nonsinglet $|+-\rangle$ and $|-+\rangle$ states and the Hilbert space becomes

$$\mathcal{H} = \{|++\rangle, |+-\rangle, |-+\rangle, |--\rangle\}, \quad (5.10)$$

then we have $S_{EE} = \log 2$ for the entanglement entropy. However physics is different again; This $\log 2$ is due to the “color” entanglement, which is associated with the color singlet meson between inside and outside (anti)quarks. Note that here we have only one superselection sector, the fundamental representation at the boundary. Thus the first contribution of (1.4) vanishes. In this way, one obtain color

entanglement associated with all the boundary with the dimension of color representation as

$$S = \sum_i \log d_i, \quad (5.11)$$

in each superselection sector, where i represents all boundary vertex and d_i is the dimension of the color representation.

Note that since gauge singlet condition prohibits the color configuration $|+-\rangle$ and $|-+\rangle$, one cannot destroy the color entanglement by LOCC. This implies that one cannot extract the entanglement by the distillation, just as the same as superselection sector prohibits $|+-\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ and $|-+\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ in Sec. VB and one cannot extract the entanglement by the distillation in that case.

Summary

We calculate the entanglement entropy for a specific state in three cases. For all cases, the extended Hilbert space is constructed as a tensor product of 2-valued (\pm) degrees of freedom at inside (left side) and outside (right side), giving the same structure (5.1), (5.4), and (5.10). Thus the states (5.2), (5.5), and (5.9) automatically give the same entanglement entropy $\log 2$. However the interpretations for the results are different.

In the two spin model, there is no constraint in the system, i.e., the extended Hilbert space is just the physical Hilbert space itself. In other words, there is no extension of the Hilbert space. Then we can interpret the entanglement entropy as just the number of Bell pairs, the third contribution in (1.4).

In the Z_2 pure gauge theory case, the states $|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ and $|--\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ are separated by the gauge constraint, i.e., these two belong to different superselection sectors. Then the entanglement entropy just originates from the probability distribution for the each sector, becoming the Shannon entropy, the first contribution in (1.4).

In the $SU(2)$ gauge theory case, although $|++\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ and $|--\rangle_{\sigma_1}$ belong to the same superselection sector (fundamental representation at the boundary), the color degrees of freedom \pm is *not* observable. Since the entanglement entropy here is associated with color, it should be nonextractable, and it corresponds to the second contribution in (1.4).

Lesson from the second and third examples is that there appears the entanglement which *cannot* be extracted by local operations when we consider entanglement in gauge theories. This is because gauge theories prohibit the local operations which break the gauge invariance.

VI. TRANSFER MATRIX AND HOPPING PARAMETER EXPANSION

In the previous sections, we consider the entanglement entropy for various states, which are chosen by hand, in

order to demonstrate how the first and the second contributions in (1.4) appear in the $1 + 1$ lattice gauge theories with scalar fields. Our next task is to calculate the entanglement entropy for the ground state of the $1 + 1$ dimensional $SU(N)$ gauge theories with the fundamental scalar field on the lattice. We are particularly interested in how the genuine entanglement, i.e., the third contribution in (1.4) shows up in this theory. In this section, we give several definitions and formula useful for this purpose. The calculation of the entanglement entropy will be given in the next section.

A. Lattice action and transfer matrix

Actions for gauge field and fundamental scalar field on the 2-d lattice are denoted as

$$S = S_G + S_M. \quad (6.1)$$

Explicitly the pure gauge action S_G is given by

$$S_G = \beta \sum_{\vec{n}} \text{tr}(U_{P,\vec{n}}(F) + U_{P,\vec{n}}^\dagger(F) - 2), \quad \beta \equiv \frac{1}{g_{\text{YM}}^2 a^2}, \quad (6.2)$$

where the plaquette $U_{P,\vec{n}}(F)$ is defined as a minimal closed loop in the 2-dimensional (Euclidean) space-time as

$$U_{P,\vec{n}} = U_{\vec{n},0} U_{\vec{n}+\hat{0},1} U_{\vec{n}+\hat{1},0}^\dagger U_{\vec{n},\hat{1}}^\dagger, \quad (6.3)$$

F stands for the fundamental representation, i.e., $U(F)$ is an $N \times N$ unitary matrix for $G = SU(N)$, $\hat{\mu}$ is the unit vector in the μ direction ($\mu = 0, 1$ represent Euclidean time direction and space direction, respectively), g_{YM} is the bare gauge coupling constant and a is the lattice spacing. The gauge invariant action for the fundamental scalar field is given by

$$S_M = a^2 \sum_{\vec{n}} \phi_{\vec{n}}^\dagger (\nabla^2 - m^2) \phi_{\vec{n}}, \quad (6.4)$$

$$a^2 \nabla^2 \phi_{\vec{n}} = \sum_{\mu=0,1} \{U_{\vec{n},\mu}(F) \phi_{\vec{n}+\hat{\mu}} + U_{\vec{n}-\hat{\mu},\mu}^\dagger(F) \phi_{\vec{n}-\hat{\mu}} - 2\phi_{\vec{n}}\}, \quad (6.5)$$

where m is the mass of the scalar field.

The entanglement entropy for the ground state of the theory is often calculated in the path integral formalism using the replica method. In this paper, however, in order to distinguish all three contributions in (1.4), we employ the operator formalism, as in the previous case for the pure gauge theories [14], where the transfer matrix and its eigenstates (instead of the Hamiltonian) were used to calculate the entanglement entropy. The transfer matrix \hat{T} is defined to generate the time translation by one (temporal) lattice unit [18,19] and thus is symbolically denoted as

$$\hat{T}(a_t, a) \equiv e^{-a_t H_L(a_t, a)}. \quad (6.6)$$

where a_t (a) is the lattice spacing in the temporal (spatial) direction and $H_L(a_t, a)$ is the lattice “Hamiltonian” for the discrete time. In the $a_t \rightarrow 0$ limit while keeping the spatial lattice spacing a nonzero, we recover the lattice Hamiltonian (1.5) for the continuous time as

$$H = \lim_{a_t \rightarrow 0} H_L(a_t, a) = -\lim_{a_t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{a_t} \log \hat{T}(a_t, a). \quad (6.7)$$

Although eigenvalues and eigenstates are different between H and \hat{T} at nonzero a_t , they agree in the continuum limit that $(a_t, a) \rightarrow (0, 0)$. In particular, the eigenstate for the largest eigenvalue of \hat{T} corresponds to the ground state of the theory at $a_t = a \neq 0$ in one to one, and it approaches to the ground state of the continuum theory as $a \rightarrow 0$. Hereafter we simply write $\hat{T} = \hat{T}(a, a)$.

To derive the transfer matrix from the path integral with the given action (6.1), we first take the temporal gauge $U_{\vec{n},0} = \mathbf{1}$ for $\forall \vec{n}$, and then define \hat{T} as

$$\langle \Psi_{\text{out}} | (\hat{T})^{N_t} | \Psi_{\text{in}} \rangle = \int_{\Psi_0 = \Psi_{\text{in}}}^{\Psi_{N_t} = \Psi_{\text{out}}} \prod_{n_0=1}^{N_t-1} \mathcal{D}\Psi_{n_0} e^{S_G + S_M}, \quad (6.8)$$

where $\Psi_{n_0} = \{U_{n_0}, \phi_{n_0}\}$ represents the gauge field $U_{n_0} = \{U_{\vec{n},1}\}$ and the scalar fields $\phi_{n_0} = \{\phi_{\vec{n}}\}$ at a give time slice n_0 , and we fix them to Ψ_{in} at $n_0 = 0$ and Ψ_{out} at $n_0 = N_t$.

We next rewrite the left-hand side of (6.8) as

$$\int_{\Psi_0 = \Psi_{\text{in}}}^{\Psi_{N_t} = \Psi_{\text{out}}} \prod_{n_0=1}^{N_t-1} \mathcal{D}\Psi_{n_0} \prod_{n_0=0}^{N_t-1} \langle \Psi_{n_0+1} | \hat{T} | \Psi_{n_0} \rangle, \quad (6.9)$$

which must be equal to the right-hand side.

We thus obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | \Psi^B \rangle &\equiv T(\Psi^A, \Psi^B) \\ &= T_0(\Psi^A) c_G T_G(U^A, U^B) T_M(\phi^A, \phi^B) T_0(\Psi^B), \end{aligned} \quad (6.10)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} T_0(\Psi) &= \prod_{n=0}^{N_t-1} \exp \left[\frac{1}{2} \{ \phi_n^\dagger U_n \phi_{n+1} + \phi_{n+1}^\dagger U_n^\dagger \phi_n \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (m^2 a^2 + 2) \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n \} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (6.11)$$

$$c_G T_G(U, V) = \prod_{n=0}^{N_t-1} \exp \{ \beta \text{tr} (U_n V_n^\dagger + V_n U_n^\dagger - 2) \}, \quad (6.12)$$

$$T_M(\phi, \phi) = \prod_{n=0}^{N_t-1} \exp [\phi_n^\dagger \phi_n + \phi_n^\dagger \phi_n], \quad (6.13)$$

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with the periodic BC in space that $U_{N_l} = U_0$, $V_{N_l} = V_0$ and $\varphi_{N_l} = \varphi_0$, $\phi_{N_l} = \phi_0$, where n represents the 1-dimensional spatial lattice point, we suppress an index for the direction $\mu = 1$ of $U_{n,1}$ and $V_{n,1}$ is omitted for simplicity, and c_G is a normalization factor such that the largest eigenvalue of T_G is one [see (6.16)].

Note that the expression of \hat{T} which satisfies (6.8) is not unique. Instead of (6.10), the asymmetric choice,

$$\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | \Psi^B \rangle = c_G T_G(U^A, U^B) T_M(\varphi^A, \varphi^B) T_0^2(\Psi^B), \quad (6.14)$$

also satisfies it, and thus can be used equally well. We use (6.14) rather than (6.10) for our convenience.

B. Character expansion

In Ref. [14], the character expansion is applied to the pure gauge part of the transfer matrix T_G as

$$\begin{aligned} c_G T_G(U, V) &= \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \sum_{\mathbf{R}} d_{\mathbf{R}} \lambda_{\mathbf{R}}(\beta) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(U_n V_n^\dagger) \\ &= \lambda_1^{N_l}(\beta) \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \left\{ 1 + \sum_{\mathbf{R} \neq \mathbf{1}} d_{\mathbf{R}} \frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{R}}(\beta)}{\lambda_1(\beta)} \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(U_n V_n^\dagger) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (6.15)$$

$$(6.16)$$

where $\chi_{\mathbf{R}}(U) = \text{tr} U(\mathbf{R})$ is a character for the irreducible representation \mathbf{R} with its dimension $d_{\mathbf{R}} = \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{1})$, and $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{1}$ denotes the trivial representation, and $c_G = \lambda_1^{N_l}(\beta)$. The expansion coefficient is given by

$$\lambda_{\mathbf{R}}(\beta) \equiv \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} \int dU \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(U) \exp[\beta \chi_{\mathbf{F}}(U + U^\dagger - \mathbf{2})], \quad (6.17)$$

which satisfies

$$0 \leq \frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{R}}(\beta)}{\lambda_1(\beta)} \leq 1, \quad \lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{R}}(\beta)}{\lambda_1(\beta)} = 1. \quad (6.18)$$

Note that $\chi_{\mathbf{R}}(U^\dagger) = \chi_{\bar{\mathbf{R}}}(U)$ and $\lambda_{\mathbf{R}}(\beta) = \lambda_{\bar{\mathbf{R}}}(\beta)$. We take $c_G = \lambda_1^{N_l}(\beta)$ for the normalization.

There are several useful formula for the group integral as follows.

$$\int [dU] \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AU) \chi_{\mathbf{R}'}(U^\dagger B) = \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} \delta_{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}'} \chi(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}), \quad (6.19)$$

$$\int [dU] \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AUBU^\dagger) = \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(A) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(B), \quad (6.20)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\int [dU] \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AUBU^\dagger) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(CUDU^\dagger) \\ &= \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}^2 - 1} \left[\chi_{\mathbf{R}}(A) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(C) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(B) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(D) + \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AC) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(BD) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} \left\{ \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(A) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(C) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(BD) + \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AC) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(B) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(D) \right\} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (6.21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\int [dU] \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AUBU^\dagger CUDU^\dagger) \\ &= \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}^2 - 1} \left[\chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AC) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(B) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(D) + \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(A) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(C) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(BD) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} \left\{ \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(AC) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(BD) + \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(A) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(C) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(B) \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(D) \right\} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (6.22)$$

C. Hopping parameter expansion (HPE)

We rescale $\hat{T} \rightarrow c_G \hat{T}$ so that c_G does not appear any more. We also rescale scalar fields as $\varphi_n \rightarrow \sqrt{K} \varphi_n$ and $\phi_n \rightarrow \sqrt{K} \phi_n$ with the hopping parameter $K = 1/(m^2 a^2 + 2)$, so that T_0^2 and T_M becomes

$$T_0^2(\Psi) = \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \exp[-\varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n + K \{ \varphi_n^\dagger U_n \varphi_{n+1} + \varphi_{n+1}^\dagger U_n^\dagger \varphi_n \}], \quad (6.23)$$

$$T_M(\varphi, \phi) = \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \exp[K(\varphi_n \phi_n^\dagger + \varphi_n^\dagger \phi_n)]. \quad (6.24)$$

Assuming that K is small, we can expand the transfer matrix around $K = 0$, which is called the hopping parameter expansion (HPE) [20,21]. In this case, the Feynman rule for the scalar field is given by

$$\langle (\varphi_n^\dagger)_a \varphi_m^b \rangle = \delta_{nm} \delta_a^b, \quad \langle \phi_n^a \phi_m^b \rangle = \langle (\phi_n^\dagger)_a (\phi_m^\dagger)_b \rangle = 0, \quad (6.25)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle (\varphi_{n_a}^\dagger)_a \varphi_{n_b}^b (\varphi_{n_c}^\dagger)_c \varphi_{n_d}^d \rangle \\ &= \delta_a^b \delta_c^d \delta_{n_a, n_b} \delta_{n_c, n_d} + \delta_a^d \delta_c^b \delta_{n_a, n_d} \delta_{n_c, n_b}. \end{aligned} \quad (6.26)$$

We define states as

$$\langle \Phi^B | n, m \rangle = \phi_n^\dagger V_{n \rightarrow m} \phi_m, \quad V_{n \rightarrow m} \equiv V_n V_{n+1} \cdots V_{m-1} \quad (6.27)$$

$$\langle \Phi^B | 0 \rangle = 1. \quad (6.28)$$

We then calculate $\hat{T}|0\rangle$ up to the order K^4 and $\hat{T}|n, m\rangle$ up to the order K^3 , which are given below.

$$T|0\rangle = \left(1 + K^2 NN_l + \frac{3}{2} K^4 NN_l + \frac{1}{2} K^4 N^2 N_l^2\right)|0\rangle + \sum_n (K^2 + 2K^4 + K^4 NN_l)|n, n\rangle + \frac{1}{2} K^4 \sum_n |n, n\rangle |n, n\rangle \\ + K^4 \sum_{n \neq m} |n, n\rangle |m, m\rangle + \sum_n K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right) \{|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle\} + \sum_n K^4 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \{|n, n+2\rangle + |n, n-2\rangle\}, \quad (6.29)$$

$$T|n, n\rangle = N\{1 + 2K^2(N+1) + K^2 N(N_l-2)\}|0\rangle + K^2 |n, n\rangle + K^2 N \sum_m |m, m\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right) (|n, n+1\rangle + |n+1, n\rangle \\ + |n, n-1\rangle + |n-1, n\rangle) + K^3 N \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right) \sum_m (|m, m+1\rangle + |m+1, m\rangle), \quad (6.30)$$

$$T|n, n+1\rangle = NK\{1 + 4(N+1)K^2 + N(N_l-3)K^2\}|0\rangle + K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right) |n, n+1\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \{|n, n+2\rangle + |n-1, n+1\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \{|n, n\rangle + |n+1, n+1\rangle\} + K^3 N \sum_m |m, m\rangle, \quad (6.31)$$

$$T|n, n-1\rangle = NK\{1 + 4(N+1)K^2 + N(N_l-3)K^2\}|0\rangle + K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right) |n, n-1\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \{|n, n-2\rangle + |n+1, n-1\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \{|n, n\rangle + |n-1, n-1\rangle\} + K^3 N \sum_m |m, m\rangle, \quad (6.32)$$

$$T|n, n+2\rangle = NK^2|0\rangle + K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 |n, n+2\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^3 \{|n, n+3\rangle + |n-1, n+2\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right) \{|n, n+1\rangle + |n+1, n+2\rangle\}, \quad (6.33)$$

$$T|n, n-2\rangle = NK^2|0\rangle + K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 |n, n-2\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^3 \{|n, n-3\rangle + |n+1, n-2\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right) \{|n, n-1\rangle + |n-1, n-2\rangle\}, \quad (6.34)$$

$$T|n, n+3\rangle = NK^3|0\rangle + K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^3 |n, n+3\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^4 \{|n, n+4\rangle + |n-1, n+3\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \{|n, n+2\rangle + |n+1, n+3\rangle\}, \quad (6.35)$$

$$T|n, n-3\rangle = NK^3|0\rangle + K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^3 |n, n-3\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^4 \{|n, n-4\rangle + |n+1, n-3\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \{|n, n-2\rangle + |n-1, n-3\rangle\}, \quad (6.36)$$

$$T|n, n+l\rangle = K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^l |n, n+l\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^{l+1} \{|n, n+l+1\rangle + |n-1, n+l\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^{l-1} \{|n, n+l-1\rangle + |n+1, n+l\rangle\}, (\text{for } l > 3) \quad (6.37)$$

$$T|n, n-l\rangle = K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^l |n, n-l\rangle + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^{l+1} \{|n, n-l-1\rangle + |n+1, n-l\rangle\} \\ + K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^{l-1} \{|n, n-l+1\rangle + |n-1, n-l\rangle\}, (\text{for } l > 3). \quad (6.38)$$

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There are mixings among states, therefore we have to diagonalize them. Up to the K^2 order, the states $|n, n + l\rangle$ and $|n, n - l\rangle$ for $l \geq 3$ are the eigenstates for the transfer matrix, since

$$T|n, n \pm l\rangle = K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right)^l |n, n \pm l\rangle, \quad (\text{for } l \geq 3). \quad (6.39)$$

Thus at this order, all we have to do is to diagonalize the mixing among $|0\rangle$, $|n, n\rangle$, $|n, n \pm 1\rangle$, and $|n, n \pm 2\rangle$ states.

VII. ENTANGLEMENT ENTROPY FOR THE GROUND STATE BY THE HPE

A. Taking into higher order corrections in K

In Secs. II and III, we have seen that a single Wilson loop or a single meson state holds nonzero entanglement entropy due to the second term of (1.4), which is associated with the color entanglement. In Sec. IV, we discussed multiple meson states, whose fluxes connect quarks-antiquarks through the boundary. In this case, by decomposing the wave function into irreducible representations, we obtain multiple superselection sectors, and as a result, nonzero entanglement entropy associated with the first term (the classical Shannon entropy for the probability distribution of each irreducible representation) as well as the second term (the color entanglement part) of (1.4) appear. We have shown these explicit examples, in order to illustrate how we obtain these non-Bell terms in the entanglement entropy in the extended Hilbert space definition.

One might wonder whether the Bell pair part of the entanglement, third term of (1.4), never appears in 2-dimensional gauge theory. In the pure gauge theory, we cannot have any Bell pairs due to the absence of local degrees of freedom [14]. In gauge theories with matter fields, of course, we can always prepare an appropriate linear combination of meson states by hand, which produces the Bell pair part in (1.4). Our main interest/concern here, however, is how the ground state of the gauge theory (the strong coupling ground state) acquires entanglements including Bell pairs from matter fields, and how entanglements for the ground state of the continuum gauge theory can be understood in terms of the lattice ground state.

In the 2-dimensional gauge theory without matter fields, which corresponds to the leading order of the HPE ($K = 0$), the ground state can be calculated exactly at an arbitrary coupling without strong coupling expansion,¹⁰ and it is written by the tensor product of a trivial state on each link satisfying $\hat{J}_{ij}^2 |0\rangle_{ij} = 0$ as

$$|0\rangle_{\text{strong}} = \bigotimes_{ij} |0\rangle_{ij}. \quad (7.1)$$

¹⁰In 2-dimensions, there is no plaquette term (i.e., magnetic field), therefore its Hamiltonian has a similar structure to the strong coupling limit of higher dimensional ones.

Thus the entanglement entropy of the strong coupling ground state $|0\rangle_{\text{strong}}$ vanishes at $K = 0$.¹¹

Therefore, in this section, we study how the higher order in K of the HPE makes the strong coupling ground state entangled, and which part of (1.4) appears. We will show the following properties.

- (i) The strong coupling ground state has no entanglement up to order K^2 in HPE (Sec. VII B).
- (ii) The first term (the Shannon part for the superselection sector distribution) and the second term (the color entanglement part) first appear at the order K^3 for the ground state (Sec. VII C).
- (iii) The third term (the Bell pair part) first appears at the order K^6 for the ground state (Sec. VII E).

Since all these contributions are positive definite order by order in the HPE, they never cancel each other. Therefore, the above observations imply that the 2-dimensional Yang-Mills theory with matter fields keeps all three types of entanglements in (1.4) in the continuum limit.

From now on, we simply denote the strong coupling ground state $|0\rangle_{\text{strong}}$ as $|0\rangle$.

B. Eigenstates and eigenvalues of \hat{T} up to $\mathcal{O}(K^2)$

We first consider contributions at $\mathcal{O}(K^2)$, and diagonalize the transfer matrix \hat{T} . At this order, the generic state $|\Psi\rangle_K$ which mixes with the strong coupling ground state $|0\rangle$ can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi\rangle_K \equiv & f_0 |0\rangle + \sum_n a_n |n, n\rangle \\ & + \sum_n b_n |n, n + 1\rangle + \sum_n c_n |n, n - 1\rangle \\ & + \sum_n d_n |n, n + 2\rangle + \sum_n e_n |n, n - 2\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (7.2)$$

We thus determine the K dependent coefficients a_n , b_n , c_n , d_n , e_n , and f_0 in such a way that

$$\hat{T}|\Psi\rangle_K \propto |\Psi\rangle_K \quad (7.3)$$

is satisfied. As long as the HPE converges, the ground state in the HPE must contain $|0\rangle$, so that we will consider the state with $f_0 \neq 0$. We can set $f_0 \equiv 1$ without loss of generality, and we denote it as

$$\begin{aligned} |G^+\rangle_K \equiv & |0\rangle + \sum_n a_n |n, n\rangle \\ & + \sum_n b_n |n, n + 1\rangle + \sum_n c_n |n, n - 1\rangle \\ & + \sum_n d_n |n, n + 2\rangle + \sum_n e_n |n, n - 2\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (7.4)$$

¹¹This state corresponds to the wave function $\chi_1(U)$, while the wave function $\chi_{\mathbf{R}}(U)$ with $\mathbf{R} \neq \mathbf{1}$ describes an excited state, which yields nonzero entanglement entropy as (2.9).

At the $O(K^2)$, using the transfer matrix \hat{T} given in Sec. [VIC](#), the ground state is given by

$$|G^+\rangle_K = |0\rangle + \sum_n a_n^+ |n, n\rangle, \\ \text{where } a_n^+ = \frac{K^2}{G_K^+ - (1 + NN_\ell)K^2}, \quad (7.5)$$

$$G_K^+ = \frac{1}{2} \{1 + K^2(1 + 2NN_\ell)\} \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 - 2(1 - 2NN_\ell)K^2 + \{1 + 4N(NN_\ell + 2)N_\ell\}K^4}. \quad (7.6)$$

The complete list of all other eigenstates and eigenvalues at this order are given in the Appendix [E](#).

In the $K \rightarrow 0$ limit, this state $|G^+\rangle_K$ has a maximum eigenvalue of the transfer matrix, $G_K^+ = 1$, which corresponds to “zero energy”, since the transfer matrix is related to the “Hamiltonian” as $T \approx e^{-aH}$. We therefore identify this state as the ground state at $O(K^2)$, which is composed of the *strong coupling* ground state $|0\rangle$ and *lattice* pointlike excited meson states $|n, n\rangle$. It is thus clear that this state does not have any entanglement. More precisely, we can write this ground state as a product state as

$$|G^+\rangle_K = \left(|0\rangle_{\text{in}} + K^2 \sum_{\text{in}} |n, n\rangle \right) \left(|0\rangle_{\text{out}} + K^2 \sum_{\text{out}} |n, n\rangle \right) \\ + \mathcal{O}(K^3). \quad (7.7)$$

This means that there is no correlation between inside and outside and thus no entanglement at this order.

On the other hand, the vacuum state $|0\rangle_{\text{cont.}}$ in the continuum gauge theory is expected to have nonzero entanglement. So there still remains a qualitative difference (whether it is entangled or not) between the ground state $|G^+\rangle_K$ at $O(K^2)$ and the continuum ground state $|0\rangle_{\text{cont.}}$. This indicates we need higher order of the HPE than K^2 . Indeed, since the vacuum state in the continuum theory is realized in the continuum limit as

$$\lim_{\substack{K \rightarrow 1/2, \\ \beta \rightarrow \infty}} |G^+\rangle_K \rightarrow |0\rangle_{\text{cont.}}, \quad (7.8)$$

where $K = (2 + (ma)^2)^{-1} \rightarrow 1/2$ and $\beta = (g_{\text{YM}}^2 a^2)^{-1} \rightarrow \infty$ as $a \rightarrow 0$ for finite mass m and coupling g_{YM} , the higher order terms in the HPE become more and more important as we approach the continuum limit. Note that our calculations include all order of the gauge coupling constant at each order of the HPE. What we will see next is that once we take into account higher order corrections, $|G^+\rangle_K$ contains various contributions of the entanglement in [\(1.4\)](#).

C. Entanglement appear at $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$ corrections

As a next step, we check how K^3 order effects modify the properties of $|G^+\rangle_K$. At the order K^3 , $|G^+\rangle_K$ becomes

$$|G^+\rangle_K = |0\rangle + K^2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle \\ + |n, n-1\rangle) + \mathcal{O}(K^4). \quad (7.9)$$

We therefore see that the $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$ contributions (quark-antiquark pairs separated with unit length) give the entanglement, once we divide the system into inside and outside.

Before we will see that the first and the second terms of [\(1.4\)](#) for the entanglement entropy becomes nonzero at this order, let us first explain how we obtain the above result. The eigenvalue equation is given by

$$\hat{T}|G^+\rangle_K = G_K^+ |G^+\rangle_K, \quad (7.10)$$

which must be solved order by order. Expanding \hat{T} , $|G^+\rangle_K$, and G_K^+ in power series of K , and using the results at $O(K^2)$ in [\(7.5\)](#) and [\(7.6\)](#), we have

$$\hat{T} = \hat{T}_0 + K^1 \hat{T}_1 + K^2 \hat{T}_2 + K^3 \hat{T}_3 + \mathcal{O}(K^4), \quad (7.11)$$

$$|G^+\rangle_K = |G_0^+\rangle + K^1 |G_1^+\rangle + K^2 |G_2^+\rangle + K^3 |G_3^+\rangle + \mathcal{O}(K^4) \\ = |0\rangle + 0 + K^2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + K^3 |G_3^+\rangle + \mathcal{O}(K^4), \quad (7.12)$$

$$G_K^+ = G_0^+ + K^1 G_1^+ + K^2 G_2^+ + K^3 G_3^+ + \mathcal{O}(K^4) \\ = 1 + 0 + K^2 2NN_\ell + K^3 G_3^+ + \mathcal{O}(K^4), \quad (7.13)$$

and solve the equations at each order in K .

Since [\(7.5\)](#) and [\(7.6\)](#) satisfy eigenvalue Eq. [\(7.10\)](#) up to $\mathcal{O}(K^2)$, it is enough to consider only $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$ terms. The left-hand side of [\(7.10\)](#) becomes

$$K^3 (\hat{T}_3 |G_0^+\rangle + \hat{T}_2 |G_1^+\rangle + \hat{T}_1 |G_2^+\rangle + \hat{T}_0 |G_3^+\rangle), \quad (7.14)$$

while the right-hand side of [\(7.10\)](#) is

$$K^3 (G_3 |G_0^+\rangle + G_2 |G_1^+\rangle + G_1 |G_2^+\rangle + G_0 |G_3^+\rangle). \quad (7.15)$$

We therefore obtain

$$\hat{T}_3 |0\rangle + \hat{T}_0 |G_3^+\rangle = G_3^+ |0\rangle + |G_3^+\rangle, \quad (7.16)$$

where we used $|G_1^+\rangle = 0$ and $G_1^+ = 0$, which are seen from [\(7.5\)](#) and [\(7.6\)](#), and $\hat{T}_1 = 0$ for $|n, n\rangle$ from [\(6.30\)](#). Since $\hat{T}_3 |0\rangle = \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle)$ from [\(6.29\)](#), the above equation is equivalent to

$$\hat{T}_0|G_3^+\rangle + \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) = G_3^+|0\rangle + |G_3^+\rangle. \quad (7.17)$$

By substituting the ansatz that

$$|G_3^+\rangle = \omega|0\rangle + \sum_n \alpha_n |n, n\rangle + \sum_n \beta_n |n, n+1\rangle + \sum_n \gamma_n |n, n-1\rangle, \quad (7.18)$$

into (7.17), together with the relation

$$\hat{T}_0|0\rangle = |0\rangle, \quad \hat{T}_0|n, n\rangle = N|n, n\rangle, \quad (\text{and the rest is zero}) \quad (7.19)$$

from (6.29)–(6.38), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \omega|0\rangle + N \sum_n \alpha_n |0\rangle + \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) \\ = (G_3^+ + \omega)|0\rangle + \sum_n \alpha_n |n, n\rangle + \sum_n \beta_n |n, n+1\rangle \\ + \sum_n \gamma_n |n, n-1\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (7.20)$$

Comparing l.h.s. and r.h.s., we finally obtain,

$$\beta_n = \gamma_n = \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}, \quad G_3^+ = \alpha_n = 0, \quad (7.21)$$

while ω is an arbitrary constant.

In conclusion, we have obtained the eigenstate at the order of K^3 as

$$\begin{aligned} |G^+\rangle_K &= (1 + \omega K^3)|0\rangle + K^2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) + \mathcal{O}(K^4) \\ &= (1 + \omega K^3) \left[|0\rangle + \frac{1}{(1 + \omega K^3)} \left\{ K^2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) + \mathcal{O}(K^4) \right\} \right] \\ &\propto |0\rangle + K^2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) + \mathcal{O}(K^4), \end{aligned} \quad (7.22)$$

$$G^+ = 1 + 2NN_\ell K^2 + \mathcal{O}(K^4). \quad (7.23)$$

This exactly gives Eq. (7.9).

At this order, the ground state includes terms such as $|i, i+1\rangle$ and $|i+1, i\rangle$, where i th vertex is located in the inside and $(i+1)$ th vertex is located in the outside. Thus there appears the nontrivial electric flux penetrating the boundary, so that we have a nontrivial superselection sector distribution. Namely, the term $|i, i+1\rangle(|i+1, i\rangle)$ belongs to a (anti)fundamental sector, whereas the other terms to a

singlet sector. Then the state makes the non-zero entanglement entropy corresponding to the first and second terms in (1.4).

We can confirm that there is *no* Bell pairs at this order by investigating each superselection sector. For simplicity, we here assume that there is only one boundary between i th inner vertex and $(i+1)$ th outer vertex with the *outer* link variable $U_{i,i+1}$.

The singlet sector for the ground state still shows the tensor product structure,

$$\begin{aligned} |G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{singlet}} &= \left(|0\rangle_{\text{in}} + K^2 \sum_{\text{in}} |n, n\rangle + K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_{\text{in}} (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) \right) \\ &\otimes \left(|0\rangle_{\text{out}} + K^2 \sum_{\text{out}} |n, n\rangle + K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_{\text{out}} (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) \right) + \mathcal{O}(K^4). \end{aligned} \quad (7.24)$$

Thus the singlet sector is *not* entangled at all.

Next let us focus on the fundamental sector (the discussion for the anti-fundamental sector is almost same). In this sector the state is simply $|i, i+1\rangle$ up to its normalization. If we explicitly denote the color degrees of freedom $a (= 1, 2, \dots, N)$, the state can be represented as

$$\begin{aligned} |G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{fundamental}} &\propto K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} |i, i+1\rangle + \mathcal{O}(K^4) \\ &= K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_a (|i, \text{bdy}\rangle_a \text{in} \otimes |\text{bdy}, i+1\rangle_{\text{out}}^a) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{O}(K^4), \end{aligned} \quad (7.25)$$

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where $|i, \text{bdy}\rangle_a$ corresponds to a quark at i th vertex with flux going to outside area, and $|\text{bdy}, i+1\rangle^a$ to the similar object. (As the wave function, these objects are represented as $(\varphi_i^\dagger)_a$ and $(U_{i,i+1}\varphi_{i+1})^a$, respectively.) Clearly the state gives the entanglement entropy $\log N$ originating entirely from the color degrees of freedom. For each color, the state shows the tensor product structure, indicating the absence of Bell pairs.

Before closing this subsection, we calculate the entanglement entropy for this ground state, which is given by

$$|G^+\rangle_K = |G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{singlet}} + |G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{fundamental}} + |G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{anti-fundamental}}, \quad (7.26)$$

up to $\mathcal{O}(K^4)$, where the state in the singlet sector $|G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{singlet}}$ is given by Eq. (7.24) while the one in the fundamental sector $|G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{fundamental}}$ by Eq. (7.25). The corresponding reduced density matrix $\rho_{\text{red.}}$ becomes

$$\rho_{\text{red.}} = p_1 \rho_1 + p_F \rho_F + p_{\bar{F}} \rho_{\bar{F}}, \quad (7.27)$$

where

$$p_1 = \frac{|\mathcal{N}_{\text{in}}|^2 |\mathcal{N}_{\text{out}}|^2}{|\mathcal{N}|^2}, \quad p_F = p_{\bar{F}} = \frac{c_F^2 N}{|\mathcal{N}|^2}, \quad (7.28)$$

$$\rho_1 = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_{\text{in}}|^2} |\mathbf{1}\rangle \langle \mathbf{1}|_{\text{in}}, \quad \rho_F = \frac{1}{N} |\mathbf{F}\rangle \langle \mathbf{F}|_{\text{in}}, \quad \rho_{\bar{F}} = \frac{1}{N} |\bar{\mathbf{F}}\rangle \langle \bar{\mathbf{F}}|_{\text{in}}, \quad (7.29)$$

with

$$|\mathcal{N}_{\text{in/out}}|^2 = (1 + K^2 N N_{\text{in/out}})^2 + K^4 N N_{\text{in/out}} + 2c_F^2 N (N_{\text{in/out}} - 1), \quad (7.30)$$

$$|\mathcal{N}|^2 = |\mathcal{N}_{\text{in}}|^2 |\mathcal{N}_{\text{out}}|^2 + 2c_F^2 N, \quad c_F \equiv K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}, \quad (7.31)$$

$$|1\rangle_{\text{in}} = |0\rangle_{\text{in}} + K^2 \sum_{\text{in}} |n, n\rangle + c_F \sum_{\text{in}} (|n, n+1\rangle + |n+1, n\rangle), \quad (7.32)$$

$$|\mathbf{F}\rangle_{\text{in}} = \sum_a |i, \text{bdy}\rangle_a |i\rangle_{\text{in}}, \quad |\bar{\mathbf{F}}\rangle_{\text{in}} = \sum_{\bar{a}} |\text{bdy}, i\rangle_{\text{in}}^{\bar{a}}. \quad (7.33)$$

Here $N_{\text{in(out)}}$ is a number of sites in the inside (outside) region, thus $N_l = N_{\text{in}} + N_{\text{out}}$, and $|\mathcal{N}|^2$ and $|\mathcal{N}_{\text{in/out}}|^2$ are defined as $|\mathcal{N}|^2 = {}_K \langle G^+ | G^+ \rangle_K$, $|\mathcal{N}_{\text{in/out}}|^2 = {}_{\text{in/out}} \langle \mathbf{1} | \mathbf{1} \rangle_{\text{in/out}}$. It is easy to see

$$\rho_1^2 = \rho_1, \quad \rho_F^2 = \frac{1}{N} \rho_F, \quad \rho_{\bar{F}}^2 = \frac{1}{N} \rho_{\bar{F}}. \quad (7.34)$$

The total entanglement entropy S_{EE} for this state is given by

$$S_{EE} = \sum_{\mathbf{R}=\mathbf{1},\mathbf{F},\bar{\mathbf{F}}} \{-p_{\mathbf{R}} \log p_{\mathbf{R}} + p_{\mathbf{R}} \log d_{\mathbf{R}}\}, \quad (7.35)$$

where $d_1 = 1, d_F = d_{\bar{F}} = N$.

D. $\mathcal{O}(K^4)$ and $\mathcal{O}(K^5)$ corrections

By almost the same way as the previous subsection, we obtain $\mathcal{O}(K^4)$ correction to the state $|G^+\rangle_K$ and eigenvalue G^+ as

$$|G^+\rangle_K = |0\rangle + K^2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) + K^4 (3 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + 2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle |n, n\rangle + \sum_{n \neq m} |n, n\rangle |m, m\rangle) + \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \sum_n (|n, n+2\rangle + |n, n-2\rangle) + \mathcal{O}(K^5), \quad (7.36)$$

$$G^+ = 1 + 2NN_\ell K^2 + \left(7 + 2\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} + 2NN_l\right) NN_l K^4 + \mathcal{O}(K^5), \quad (7.37)$$

again having three sectors (singlet, fundamental, and antifundamental).

This is obtained from Eq. (7.10) at order K^4 as follows. Using expansions (7.11), (7.12), and (7.13) at order K^4 , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{T}_4 |0\rangle + \hat{T}_2 \sum_n |n, n\rangle + \hat{T}_1 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_n (|n, n+1\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) + \hat{T}_0 |G_4^+\rangle \\ = G_4^+ |0\rangle + 2NN_l \sum_n |n, n\rangle + |G_4^+\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (7.38)$$

A comparison between the l.h.s. and r.h.s. in (7.38), together with the formula (6.29) and the ansatz

$$|G_4^+\rangle = \omega|0\rangle + \sum_n \alpha_n |n, n\rangle + \sum_n \alpha_{n,n} |n, n\rangle |n, n\rangle + \sum_{n \neq m} \alpha_{n,m} |n, n\rangle |m, m\rangle + \sum_n \beta_n |n, n+1\rangle + \sum_n \gamma_n |n, n-1\rangle + \sum_n \delta_n |n, n+2\rangle + \sum_n \varepsilon_n |n, n-2\rangle, \quad (7.39)$$

gives

$$\delta_n = \varepsilon_n = \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2, \quad \beta_n = \gamma_n = 0, \quad (7.40)$$

$$\alpha_{n,m} = 1 \quad (\text{for } n \neq m), \quad \alpha_{n,n} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \alpha_n = 3, \quad (7.41)$$

$$G_4^+ = \left(7 + 2\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} + 2NN_l\right) NN_l. \quad (7.42)$$

These lead to results (7.36) and (7.37).

Let us consider whether the ground state wave function (7.36) at $\mathcal{O}(K^4)$ in the HPE contains the Bell pair part of the entanglement entropy (1.4). To see this, we examine singlet sector and (anti)fundamental sector separately. Again we assume a single boundary between the i th inner vertex and the $(i+1)$ th outer vertex.

We first analyze the singlet sector in the following way. If we assume that the Bell pair part is absent, we immediately notice that the term $|n, n\rangle_{\text{in}} |m, m\rangle_{\text{out}}$, where the n th vertex is in the inside and the m th vertex is in the outside, must appear in the ground state as

$$|G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{singlet}} \supset c_4 K^4 |n, n\rangle_{\text{in}} |m, m\rangle_{\text{out}} \quad (7.43)$$

with the coefficient $c_4 = 1$, which is determined from the result at the lower order given in (7.24), since such a term must be a part of the tensor product of inside-only excited states and outside-only excited states. Inversely, if $c_4 \neq 1$, such a state *cannot* be written as a tensor product state given in (7.24). The result (7.41) indeed shows $c_4 = 1$ for our wave function (7.36) at $\mathcal{O}(K^4)$. Therefore *no* Bell pair part appears in this sector.

In the higher orders, we can employ the similar analysis. With the assumption on the tensor product structure, we can predict coefficients of new terms at the higher order from results at lower orders. At $\mathcal{O}(K^5)$, for instance, the term $|n, n\rangle |m, m\rangle$ cannot exist since there is no corresponding inside-only or outside-only excited terms at lower orders. Indeed we cannot construct $|n, n\rangle |m, m\rangle$ states from $|0\rangle$ by the $\mathcal{O}(K^5)$ part of \hat{T} , since we need at least $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$ terms, which consist of two “U”-shaped contributions.¹²

The (anti)fundamental sector at K^4 order has almost the same structure as the K^3 order case, where only difference is the distance of (anti)quark from the boundary. As is the case of $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$, we can explicitly represent the state as

$$\begin{aligned} |G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{fundamental}} &\propto K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} |i, i+1\rangle + K^4 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 (|i, i+2\rangle + |i-1, i+1\rangle) + \mathcal{O}(K^5) \\ &= K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_a (|i, \text{bdy}\rangle_a^{\text{in}} \otimes |\text{bdy}, i+1\rangle_a^{\text{out}}) + K^4 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \sum_{a'} (|i, \text{bdy}\rangle_{a'}^{\text{in}} \otimes |\text{bdy}, i+2\rangle_{a'}^{\text{out}}) \\ &\quad + K^4 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 \sum_{a''} (|i-1, \text{bdy}\rangle_{a''}^{\text{in}} \otimes |\text{bdy}, i\rangle_{a''}^{\text{out}}) + \mathcal{O}(K^5) \\ &= K^3 \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \sum_a \left(|i, \text{bdy}\rangle_a + K \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} |i-1, \text{bdy}\rangle_a \right)_{\text{in}} \otimes \left(|\text{bdy}, i+1\rangle_a + K \frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} |\text{bdy}, i+2\rangle_a \right)_{\text{out}} + \mathcal{O}(K^5), \end{aligned} \quad (7.44)$$

again without producing any Bell pairs.

We can apply the similar analysis to the $\mathcal{O}(K^5)$ case, and get the tensor product structure. With the fact that there appears *no* new superselection sector at $\mathcal{O}(K^5)$,¹³ we thus conclude that there is no Bell pair at this order.

In the next subsection we will see that once we take into account $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$ corrections, the ground state *cannot* be written as a tensor product state predicted from lower order results. As a consequence, we obtain the Bell pair part at $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$.

E. Bell pair appears at $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$ corrections

To show that the Bell pair part appears in the ground state at $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$, we perform the same analysis.

¹²Each “U”-shape is $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$, see Appendix D for details.

¹³At the $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$, a new adjoint sector appears.

Suppose again that the i th vertex is located in the inside while the $(i + 1)$ th vertex is in the outside. We focus on the singlet sector of the ground state, and we thus look at the coefficient c_6 , which is associated with the term at $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$ as

$$|G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{singlet}} \supset c_6 K^6 |i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} |i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}}. \quad (7.45)$$

As was discussed in the previous subsection, if there is no Bell pair, $|G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{singlet}}$ must be the tensor product of the inside-only excited state and the outside-only excited state, and vice versa. Then, the term $|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} |i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}}$ must come from the product of $|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}}$ and $|i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}}$ at lower order in the HPE. Eq. (7.36) and the absence of terms such as $|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}}$ or $|i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}}$ at $\mathcal{O}(K^5)$ imply that the c_6 term at $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$ in (7.45) must be obtained from lower orders as

$$\begin{aligned} & [|0\rangle_{\text{in}} + K^2|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} + 3K^4|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} + \mathcal{O}(K^6)]_{\text{in}} \\ & \otimes [|0\rangle_{\text{out}} + K^2|i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}} + 3K^4|i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}} + \mathcal{O}(K^6)]_{\text{out}} \\ & \supset K^2|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} \otimes 3K^4|i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}} + 3K^4|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} \otimes K^2|i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}} \\ & = 6K^6|i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} |i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}}, \end{aligned} \quad (7.46)$$

which gives $c_6 = 6$. Inversely if $c_6 \neq 6$, which is the case we will see, there are Bell pairs in this ground state.

To calculate c_6 , we consider the corresponding terms in the eigenstate equation,

$$\hat{T}|G^+\rangle_K = G_K^+|G^+\rangle_K. \quad (7.47)$$

Since at least the fourth order part of the transfer matrix in the HPE is needed to generate the $|i, i\rangle |i + 1, i + 1\rangle$ state in the future time, together with $|G_1^+\rangle = 0$, the relevant part of the left-hand side can be calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} & (\hat{T}_6|G_0^+\rangle + \hat{T}_4|G_2^+\rangle)|_{K^6, |i, i\rangle |i + 1, i + 1\rangle} \\ & = \left(\hat{T}_6|0\rangle + \hat{T}_4 \sum_n |n, n\rangle \right) \Big|_{K^6, |i, i\rangle |i + 1, i + 1\rangle} \\ & = 6 + 2NN_l + \frac{1}{N}. \end{aligned} \quad (7.48)$$

See Appendix D.3 b for the explicit calculation to derive this result.

On the other hand, since $|i, i\rangle |i + 1, i + 1\rangle$ term appears only at $K^n (n \geq 4)$ order and $G_1^+ = 0$, the right-hand side is evaluated as

$$\begin{aligned} & (G_0^+|G_6^+\rangle + G_2^+|G_4^+\rangle)|_{K^6, |i, i\rangle |i + 1, i + 1\rangle} \\ & = 1 \times c_6 + 2NN_l \times 1 = c_6 + 2NN_l. \end{aligned} \quad (7.49)$$

Thus Eq. (7.47) leads to

$$c_6 = 6 + \frac{1}{N} \Rightarrow c_6 \neq 6. \quad (7.50)$$

We therefore conclude that there is the Bell pair part of the entanglement entropy in the singlet sector for the ground state.

Finally, we estimate the Bell pair part of the entanglement on the singlet sector at K^6 order. Since the ground state $|G^+\rangle_K$ in Eq. (7.36) has the following structure

$$|G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{Non-singlet}} = \mathcal{O}(K^3), \quad (7.51)$$

the probability distribution p_1 for the singlet sector ($\mathbf{k} = 1$) and $p_{\mathbf{k} \neq 1}$ for the non-singlet sector ($\mathbf{k} \neq 1$) are given by

$$p_1 = 1 + \mathcal{O}(K^6), \quad p_{\mathbf{k} \neq 1} = \mathcal{O}(K^6). \quad (7.52)$$

Therefore, the Bell pair part, the third term of (1.4), is estimated in the HPE as

$$\begin{aligned} S_{EE}^{\text{Bell}} & \equiv - \sum_{\mathbf{k}} p_{\mathbf{k}} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{\text{in}}^1} \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}} \log \rho_{\text{in}}^{\mathbf{k}} \\ & = -\text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{\text{in}}^1} \rho_{\text{in}}^1 \log \rho_{\text{in}}^1 + \mathcal{O}(K^6), \end{aligned} \quad (7.53)$$

In fact one can explicitly show that for the ground state wave function up to $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$, the Bell pair part of the entanglement appears only from the singlet sector. Therefore we here focus on the singlet sector of the ground state $|G^+\rangle_K$ and evaluate the leading contribution of the Bell pair part in the HPE.

As discussed, the singlet sector of the ground state has the following structure.

$$\begin{aligned} |G^+\rangle_K|_{\text{singlet}} & = |\Psi\rangle_{\text{in}} \otimes |\Psi\rangle_{\text{out}} + \frac{K^6}{N} |i, i\rangle_{\text{in}} \otimes |i + 1, i + 1\rangle_{\text{out}} \\ & \quad + \mathcal{O}(K^7), \end{aligned} \quad (7.54)$$

Here $|\Psi\rangle_{\text{in}} \otimes |\Psi\rangle_{\text{out}}$ corresponds to the l.h.s. of (7.46) if we focus only on the i th and $i + 1$ th vertices. In addition, $|\Psi\rangle_{\text{in}}$

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and $|\Psi\rangle_{\text{out}}$ of course contain also purely inside only and outside only excitations, respectively. In particular, $|\Psi\rangle_{\text{in/out}}$ becomes $|0\rangle_{\text{in/out}}$ at $K = 0$ as we have seen in previous section. Since the first term of (7.54) has a tensor product structure, the second term is crucial to generate the Bell pair part of the entanglement.

From (7.54), we can obtain the reduced density matrix ρ_{red} , neglecting $\mathcal{O}(K^7)$ for the singlet state as

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{N}_{\text{singlet}}|^2 \rho_{\text{red}} &= |\Psi\rangle_{\text{inout}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{outin}} \langle \Psi | \\ &+ \frac{K^6}{N} |\Psi\rangle_{\text{inout}} \langle i+1, i+1 | \Psi \rangle_{\text{outin}} \langle i, i | \\ &+ \frac{K^6}{N} |i, i\rangle_{\text{inout}} \langle \Psi | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{outin}} \langle \Psi | \\ &+ \left(\frac{K^6}{N}\right)^2 |i, i\rangle_{\text{inout}} \langle i+1, i+1 | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{outin}} \langle i, i |. \end{aligned} \quad (7.55)$$

Here the norm $|\mathcal{N}_{\text{singlet}}|^2$ is

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{N}_{\text{singlet}}|^2 &\equiv {}_K \langle G^+ | G^+ \rangle_K |_{\text{singlet}} \\ &= {}_{\text{in}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{out}} \\ &+ \frac{K^6}{N} {}_{\text{in}} \langle i, i | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle i+1, i+1 | \Psi \rangle_{\text{out}} \\ &+ \frac{K^6}{N} {}_{\text{in}} \langle \Psi | i, i \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle \Psi | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{out}} \\ &+ \left(\frac{K^6}{N}\right)^2 {}_{\text{in}} \langle i, i | i, i \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle i+1, i+1 | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{out}}. \end{aligned} \quad (7.56)$$

To diagonalize the reduced density matrix (7.55), we would like to solve the following eigenvalue problem

$$\rho_{\text{red}} |P\rangle = p |P\rangle, \quad |P\rangle = \alpha |\Psi\rangle_{\text{in}} + \beta |i, i\rangle_{\text{in}}, \quad (7.57)$$

which leads to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho_{11} - p & \rho_{12} \\ \rho_{21} & \rho_{22} - p \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad (7.58)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{N}_{\text{singlet}}|^2 \rho_{11} &= {}_{\text{in}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{out}} \\ &+ \frac{K^6}{N} {}_{\text{in}} \langle i, i | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle i+1, i+1 | \Psi \rangle_{\text{out}}, \end{aligned} \quad (7.59)$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{N}_{\text{singlet}}|^2 \rho_{12} &= {}_{\text{in}} \langle \Psi | i, i \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{out}} \\ &+ \frac{K^6}{N} {}_{\text{in}} \langle i, i | i, i \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle i+1, i+1 | \Psi \rangle_{\text{out}}, \end{aligned} \quad (7.60)$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{N}_{\text{singlet}}|^2 \rho_{21} &= \frac{K^6}{N} {}_{\text{in}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle \Psi | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{out}} \\ &+ \left(\frac{K^6}{N}\right)^2 {}_{\text{in}} \langle i, i | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle i+1, i+1 | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{out}}, \end{aligned} \quad (7.61)$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{N}_{\text{singlet}}|^2 \rho_{22} &= \frac{K^6}{N} {}_{\text{in}} \langle \Psi | i, i \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle \Psi | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{out}} \\ &+ \left(\frac{K^6}{N}\right)^2 {}_{\text{in}} \langle i, i | i, i \rangle_{\text{in out}} \langle i+1, i+1 | i+1, i+1 \rangle_{\text{out}}. \end{aligned} \quad (7.62)$$

Thus, the eigenvalue is given by

$$p = \frac{\rho_{11} + \rho_{22} \pm \sqrt{(\rho_{11} - \rho_{22})^2 + 4\rho_{12}\rho_{21}}}{2}. \quad (7.63)$$

To evaluate this, we use

$${}_{\text{in/out}} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in/out}} = 1 + \mathcal{O}(K^2), \quad (7.64)$$

$${}_{\text{in/out}} \langle n, n | \Psi \rangle_{\text{in/out}} = N + \mathcal{O}(K^2), \quad (7.65)$$

$${}_{\text{in/out}} \langle n, n | n, n \rangle_{\text{in/out}} = N(N+1), \quad (7.66)$$

which can be obtained by recalling ${}_{\text{in/out}} \langle n, n | 0 \rangle_{\text{in/out}} = N$ and ${}_{\text{in/out}} \langle 0 | 0 \rangle_{\text{in}} = 1$, together with the fact that in the leading order in HPE, we have $|\Psi\rangle_{\text{in}} = |0\rangle_{\text{in}} + \mathcal{O}(K^2)$. Then the leading contribution of (7.63) yields

$$p \simeq 1 - K^{12}, \quad K^{12}. \quad (7.67)$$

We therefore obtain the entanglement entropy S_{EE}^{Bell} for the singlet state as

$$\begin{aligned} S_{EE}^{\text{Bell}} &= -(1 - K^{12}) \log(1 - K^{12}) - K^{12} \log K^{12} + \mathcal{O}(K^{14}) \\ &= (1 - \log K^{12}) K^{12} + \mathcal{O}(K^{14}). \end{aligned} \quad (7.68)$$

Note that we obtain entangled $\mathcal{O}(K^{12}N^0)$ Bell pairs in the HPE from the $\mathcal{O}(K^6N^{-1})$ term in the wave function (7.54).

VIII. SUMMARY AND DISCUSSIONS

In this paper, we studied $1+1$ dimensional $SU(N)$ gauge theories with matter fields, mainly in the fundamental representation of the gauge group. In the first part of this paper, the entanglement entropy for various meson states is evaluated using the extended Hilbert space formalism [4–6]. We show that the entanglement entropy has two different contributions. One is the classical Shannon entropy for various different superselection sector distribution, which is the first term in (1.4), and the other is the sum over the logarithm of the dimensions for the irreducible representation at all boundaries, which is the second term in (1.4). In the second part, we consider the ground state in the HPE and show that the first term and the second term in (1.4) appear from the ground state at the $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$, while the third term, which corresponds to the number of Bell pairs obtained by the entanglement distillation, appears at $\mathcal{O}(K^6)$. Since all terms in (1.4) are positive definite, they also remain positive even in the continuum limit ($\beta = 1/(g_{\text{YM}}^2 a^2) \rightarrow \infty$ and $K = 1/(m^2 a^2 + 2) \rightarrow 1/2$). This means that the continuum vacuum of gauge theories with the fundamental matter fields in $1+1$ dimensions contains all terms in (1.4). Unfortunately, it is very hard to calculate these three contributions precisely in the continuum limit, since higher and higher order terms in the HPE are needed toward the continuum limit.

Even though precise values are unknown, it is certain that the true vacuum state contains not only the strong coupling ground state $|0\rangle_{\text{strong}}$, which is the ground state of the pure gauge theories, but also gauge invariant meson states, which consist of multiple pairs of scalar and antiscalar fields. Since there are no contributions to the entanglement entropy from the strong coupling ground state $|0\rangle_{\text{strong}}$, all of the positive values of three terms in (1.4) are caused by multiple meson states. Therefore the entanglement entropy for the true ground state comes mainly from the meson pair with small separation (a few lattice spacings) at small K . In the continuum limit ($\beta \rightarrow \infty$ and $K \rightarrow 1/2$), however, the separation n between the entangled meson pair (the Bell pair) can become infinitely large due to the higher order of the HPE, so that $r = na$ becomes nonzero in the continuum limit. These suggest that the continuum vacuum entanglement is due to the “condensation” of multiple meson states. More precisely, the continuum vacuum is fully filled with lattice meson states. This is the key picture we obtain through the analysis in this paper. We end this paper with several comments.

Our results also imply an interesting property. If we take the continuum limit as $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ but $K < 1/2$, the matter field becomes infinitely heavy, and thus decouples from the low energy physics in the continuum limit,

so that the continuum theory is the pure gauge theory. This infinitely heavy matter, however, produces nonzero (genuine) entanglement of the pure gauge vacuum. This means that the entanglement might be very sensitive to degrees of freedom at high energy, which cannot be detected at low energy. This left-over entanglement might be much smaller than the entanglement of the continuum gauge theory with matters, which could be divergent. Even though the entanglement is not observable in the strict sense, it is interesting if this leftover entanglement can be detected by some mathematical means.

To make the above picture for the entanglement entropy in the continuum limit more quantitative, we have to perform some kind of resummation for the HPE. At this moment, unfortunately, we do not have an explicit idea how to do this generically and we are not sure if this is possible. However in $1+1$ dimensions, the gauge theory with matter fields is in principle solvable at least in the large N limit [15]. We therefore have a good chance to obtain the entanglement entropy for this model in the large N limit. This direction is worth investigating furthermore in future. Note that in this paper we focus especially on the ground state but it is also interesting to study excited state entanglement entropy and their time evolution. It is also interesting to generalize our analysis to higher dimension.

Finally all of above results suggest interesting points in holography. In the gauge theory side, the natural extended Hilbert space definition gives three different terms for the entanglement entropy. In the gravity side, however, we have only a minimal area term (RT formula [22]), at least in the large N limit. Therefore, which term dominates in the large N limit among three terms in (1.4) is an important question, when we compare the results with those in the gravity side. It is interesting that the genuine entanglement part (=the Bell pair part) may not be dominant one in the large N limit. In order to deepen our understanding of the holographic meaning of the entanglement entropy, it is important to find the corresponding gravity dual to all of these three terms in extended Hilbert space entanglement entropy. Last but not least, it is interesting to ask what corresponds to the extended Hilbert space in the dual gravity side. We hope to come back to these questions in the near future.

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APPENDIX A: USEFUL FORMULAS

We use a, b, c, d, \dots , and i, j, \dots as color indices in fundamental representation (which run $1, \dots, N$) of the $SU(N)$ gauge group.

1. Matter fields

Scalar field φ in Fundamental representation For the scalar field φ^c in the fundamental representation with $\varphi^\dagger \varphi \equiv \varphi_c^\dagger \varphi^c$, we have following useful Gaussian integral formulas:

$$\int [d\varphi] e^{-a\varphi^\dagger \varphi} = \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}\right)^{2N}, \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\int [d\varphi] \varphi_c^\dagger \varphi^d e^{-a\varphi^\dagger \varphi} = \delta_c^d \frac{1}{a} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}\right)^{2N}, \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$\int [d\varphi] \varphi_a^\dagger \varphi^b \varphi_c^\dagger \varphi^d e^{-a\varphi^\dagger \varphi} = (\delta_a^b \delta_c^d + \delta_a^d \delta_c^b) \frac{1}{a^2} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}\right)^{2N}. \quad (\text{A3})$$

The last formula gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \int [d\varphi] \left(\sum_{b=1}^N \varphi_b^\dagger \varphi^b\right) \left(\sum_{d=1}^N \varphi_d^\dagger \varphi^d\right) e^{-\sum_{c=1}^N a\varphi_c^\dagger \varphi^c} \\ &= \frac{N(N+1)}{a^2} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}\right)^{2N}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

Hermitian $N \times N$ matrix scalar X^c_d field Next we consider the Gaussian integral for the Hermitian $N \times N$ matrix field. This is an adjoint representation matter field for gauge group $U(N)$, whose Gaussian integral becomes

$$\int [dX] \exp(-a \text{Tr} X^2) = \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}\right)^{N^2}, \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$\int [dX] X^a_b X^c_d \exp(-a \text{Tr} X^2) = \delta^a_d \delta^c_b \frac{1}{2a} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}\right)^{N^2}, \quad (\text{A6})$$

while the Gaussian integral for the field in the adjoint representation of the gauge group $SU(N)$ leads to

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$$\begin{aligned} & \int [dX] X^a_b X^c_d \exp(-a \text{Tr} X^2) \\ &= \left(\delta^a_d \delta^c_b - \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_b \delta^c_d\right) \frac{1}{2a} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}\right)^{N^2-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A7})$$

where the traceless condition is used. The above formulas are obtained by expanding

$$X = \sum_{A=0}^{N^2-1} t^A X_A, \quad \sum_{A=0}^{N^2-1} (t^A)^a_b (t^A)^c_d = \delta^a_d \delta^c_b \quad (\text{A8})$$

for $U(N)$ and

$$X = \sum_{A=1}^{N^2-1} t^A X_A, \quad \sum_{A=1}^{N^2-1} (t^A)^a_b (t^A)^c_d = \delta^a_d \delta^c_b - \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_b \delta^c_d \quad (\text{A9})$$

for $SU(N)$, where X_A is real and $\text{tr}(t^A t^B) = \delta^{AB}$.

2. Link variables (= exponential of gauge fields)

For link variables U^a_b, U^c_d, \dots in the fundamental representation ($a, b, c, d = 1, \dots, N$), the integration over the group with the invariant Haar measure $[dU]$ gives

$$\int [dU] U^a_b U^{\dagger c}_d = \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_d \delta^c_b, \quad (\text{A10})$$

which can be derived from the symmetry under group transformation $U \rightarrow LUR$ [13]. Similarly, one can show [13]

$$\begin{aligned} & \int [dU] U^a_b U^c_d U^{\dagger i}_j U^{\dagger k}_\ell \\ &= \frac{1}{N^2-1} [\delta^a_j \delta^i_b \delta^c_\ell \delta^k_d + \delta^a_\ell \delta^k_b \delta^c_j \delta^i_d \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{N} (\delta^a_j \delta^k_b \delta^c_\ell \delta^i_d + \delta^a_\ell \delta^i_b \delta^c_j \delta^k_d)]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A11})$$

where not only a, b, c, d but also i, j, k, l are indices of the fundamental/anti-fundamental representation and thus run from 1 to N .

For generic representations \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{R}' , Eq. (A10) is replaced with

$$\int [dU] U^a_b(\mathbf{R}) U^{\dagger c}_d(\mathbf{R}') = \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} \delta_{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}'} \delta^a_d \delta^c_b, \quad (\text{A12})$$

where $d_{\mathbf{R}}$ is the dimension of the representation \mathbf{R} ($d_{\mathbf{R}} = N$ for the fundamental and $d_{\mathbf{R}} = N^2 - 1$ for the

adjoint) and $a, b, c, d = 1, \dots, d_{\mathbf{R}}$ in this case. Furthermore Eq. (A11) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \int [dU] U^a_b(\mathbf{R}) U^c_d(\mathbf{R}) U^{\dagger i}_j(\mathbf{R}) U^{\dagger k}_\ell(\mathbf{R}) \\ &= \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}^2 - 1} \left[\delta^a_j \delta^i_b \delta^c_\ell \delta^k_d + \delta^a_\ell \delta^k_b \delta^c_j \delta^i_d \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{R}}} (\delta^a_j \delta^k_b \delta^c_\ell \delta^i_d + \delta^a_\ell \delta^i_b \delta^c_j \delta^k_d) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A13})$$

APPENDIX B: CHARACTERS FOR LINK VARIABLES

Characters are very useful in order to handle link variables for gauge theories, and we review briefly in this appendix.

For a gauge group element $g \in G$ and its representation $g(\mathbf{R})$, the character is defined as

$$\chi_{\mathbf{R}}(g) \equiv \text{Tr}_{\mathbf{R}}[g(\mathbf{R})]. \quad (\text{B1})$$

The character satisfies several important properties. One of them is that the product of characters can be expressed as the sum of characters. The other important property of character is that different representation characters are orthogonal under the group integral.

To illustrate these, let us consider the group $SU(2)$ as an example. One can label representations by their spin j . Their dimensions are given by $d_j = 2j + 1$. Since characters are invariant under the group transformation, one can always choose a basis such that $R(g)$ becomes a rotation along the “ z ”-axis. Then it is clear that a number of parameters for each character is given by the dimension of its Cartan subalgebra. More explicitly, characters for spin- j representations of the $SU(2)$ are given by

$$\chi_{\frac{1}{2}}(\theta) = 2 \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \left(R_z^{(\frac{1}{2})}(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{i\frac{\theta}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\frac{\theta}{2}} \end{bmatrix} \right), \quad (\text{B2})$$

$$\chi_1(\theta) = 1 + 2 \cos \theta \left(R_z^{(1)}(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right), \quad (\text{B3})$$

$$\chi_j(\theta) = \text{Tr}_j[e^{iJ_z\theta}] = \sum_{m=-j}^j e^{im\theta} = \frac{\sin(j + \frac{1}{2})\theta}{\sin \frac{\theta}{2}}. \quad (\text{B4})$$

For the $SU(2)$, the fact that the product of characters can be expressed as the sum of characters is equivalent

to a familiar Clebsch-Gordan expansion in quantum mechanics:

$$\chi_{j_1}(\theta) \chi_{j_2}(\theta) = \sum_{j=|j_1-j_2|}^{j_1+j_2} \chi_j(\theta). \quad (\text{B5})$$

For example,

$$\chi_{\frac{1}{2}}(\theta) \chi_{\frac{1}{2}}(\theta) = 4 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} = 4 \times \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2} = \chi_0(\theta) + \chi_1(\theta). \quad (\text{B6})$$

The property that different representations are orthogonal is expressed as

$$\int [dg] \chi_j(g) \chi_{j'}^*(g) = \delta_{jj'}. \quad (\text{B7})$$

This can be seen as follows. For the $SU(2)$, due to its pseudoreality, $\chi_j(g) = \chi_j^*(g)$. Using (B5), above integrand can be expressed as a sum over different representations of characters. From the invariance of the measure, $\forall h \in G, [dg] = d[(hg)] = d[(gh)]$, it is clear that only the singlet representation gives nonzero value after the integral. We take $\int [dg] = 1$ as the normalization condition.

APPENDIX C: TENSOR PRODUCT DECOMPOSITION OF THE WAVE FUNCTION

In this appendix, we discuss the decomposition of the wave function given in Sec. IV C as

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\varphi, U) &= [\varphi_b^\dagger U_{b,b+1} \varphi_{b+1}]^2 [\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger U_{b,b+1}^\dagger \varphi_b]^2 \\ &\equiv [(\varphi^\dagger \phi)(\phi^\dagger \varphi)]^2, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C1})$$

where $\varphi \equiv \varphi_b$ and $\phi \equiv U_{b,b+1} \varphi_{b+1}$. We regard φ and ϕ as objects in inside and outside regions, respectively. Since there are 2 sets of “fundamental \otimes antifundamental” matters in the inside, one can decompose it into 2 sets of “adjoint \oplus singlet” as

$$(\varphi^\dagger \phi)(\phi^\dagger \varphi) = \text{Tr}(XY) + \frac{1}{N} (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\phi^\dagger \phi), \quad (\text{C2})$$

where we define “adjoint matters” by

$$\begin{aligned} X^a_b &\equiv \varphi_b^\dagger \varphi^a - \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_b (\varphi^\dagger \varphi), \\ Y^a_b &\equiv \phi_b^\dagger \phi^a - \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_b (\phi^\dagger \phi). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C3})$$

In this notation, we can rewrite our wave function as follows.

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$$\Psi(\varphi, U) = \left[\frac{1}{N^2} (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2 (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \frac{2}{N} \text{Tr}(XY) (\varphi^\dagger \varphi) (\phi^\dagger \phi) + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2 \right]. \quad (\text{C4})$$

The first term belongs to the singlet sector, which comes from “singlet \otimes singlet”, while the second term to the adjoint sector from “singlet \otimes adjoint”. The third term corresponds to “adjoint \otimes adjoint”, and we therefore need to further decompose this term into irreducible representations. For $SU(N)$, the tensor product decomposition of adjoint \otimes adjoint is

$$\begin{aligned} N^2 - 1 \otimes N^2 - 1 \\ = 1 \oplus (N^2 - 1)_s \oplus (N^2 - 1)_a \\ \oplus \frac{1}{4} N^2 (N - 1) (N + 3) \oplus \frac{1}{4} N^2 (N + 1) (N - 3) \\ \oplus \frac{1}{4} (N^2 - 1) (N^2 - 4) \oplus \frac{1}{4} (N^2 - 1) (N^2 - 4), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C5})$$

where $\frac{1}{4} N^2 (N - 1) (N + 3)$ and $\frac{1}{4} N^2 (N + 1) (N - 3)$ are totally symmetric and antisymmetric traceless combination for original indices, respectively, while two adjoint representations, $(N^2 - 1)_s$ and $(N^2 - 1)_a$, comes from these “s” ymmetric and “a” ntisymmetric representations by the partial trace. Finally $\frac{1}{4} (N^2 - 1) (N^2 - 4)$ and its conjugates are mixed symmetric and traceless. See Fig. 7. In $SU(2)$

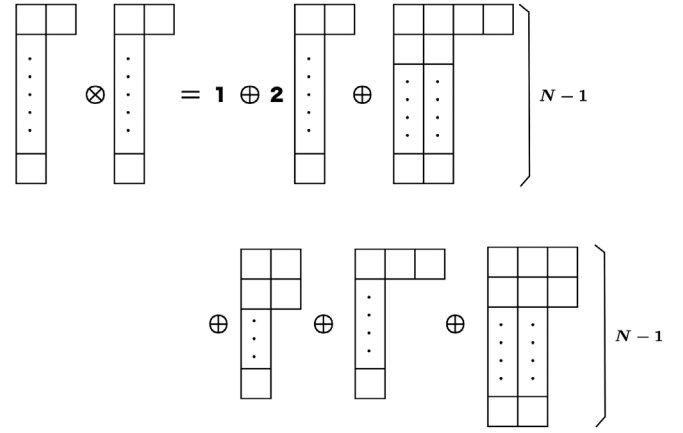


FIG. 7. Young diagrams for the tensor decomposition (C5).

and $SU(3)$, some of these representations are absent but our final result is true for these special cases.

1. Tensor product decomposition for components

As a first step, we decompose $X^a_b X^i_j$ into irreducible combinations. We follow the standard procedure in the representation theory of $SU(N)$. Namely, we first symmetrize and antisymmetrize $X^a_b X^i_j$, and then remove the trace of these combinations. We continue this manipulation until we obtain the trivial representation. From now on we assume $N \geq 4$.¹⁴ The final result becomes

$$X^a_b X^i_j = (\mathbf{1})^{ai}_{bj} + (N^2 - 1_s)^{ai}_{bj} + (N^2 - 1_a)^{ai}_{bj} + \left(\frac{1}{4} N^2 (N - 1) (N + 3) \right)^{ai}_{bj} + \left(\frac{1}{4} N^2 (N + 1) (N - 3) \right)^{ai}_{bj}, \quad (\text{C6})$$

where

$$(\mathbf{1})^{ai}_{bj} = \frac{1}{(N^2 - 1)} \text{Tr}(X^2) \left[\delta^a_j \delta^i_b - \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_b \delta^i_j \right], \quad (\text{C7})$$

$$(N^2 - 1_s)^{ai}_{bj} = \frac{1}{2(N + 2)} [\delta^i_b (X^2)^a_j + \delta^a_j (X^2)^i_b + (X^2)^a_b \delta^i_j + (X^2)^i_j \delta^a_b - \frac{2}{N} \text{Tr}(X^2) (\delta^a_j \delta^i_b + \delta^a_b \delta^i_j)], \quad (\text{C8})$$

$$(N^2 - 1_a)^{ai}_{bj} = \frac{1}{2(N - 2)} [\delta^i_b (X^2)^a_j + \delta^a_j (X^2)^i_b - (X^2)^a_b \delta^i_j - (X^2)^i_j \delta^a_b - \frac{2}{N} \text{Tr}(X^2) (\delta^a_j \delta^i_b - \delta^a_b \delta^i_j)], \quad (\text{C9})$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{1}{4} N^2 (N - 1) (N + 3) \right)^{ai}_{bj} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[X^a_b X^i_j + X^a_j X^i_b - \frac{1}{N + 2} (\delta^i_b (X^2)^a_j + \delta^a_j (X^2)^i_b + (X^2)^a_b \delta^i_j + (X^2)^i_j \delta^a_b) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{(N + 1)(N + 2)} \text{Tr}(X^2) (\delta^a_b \delta^i_j + \delta^a_j \delta^i_b) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C10})$$

¹⁴Although intermediate steps cannot be applied directly to $N = 2, 3$, our final result is valid even in these cases.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{1}{4} \mathbf{N}^2 (\mathbf{N} + \mathbf{1}) (\mathbf{N} - \mathbf{3}) \right)_{bj}^{ai} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[X^a_b X^i_j - X^a_j X^i_b - \frac{1}{N-2} (\delta^i_b (X^2)^a_j - \delta^i_j (X^2)^a_b + (X^2)^i_b \delta^a_j - (X^2)^i_j \delta^a_b) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{(N-1)(N-2)} \text{Tr}(X^2) (\delta^a_j \delta^i_b - \delta^a_b \delta^i_j) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C11})$$

One can obtain the same decomposition for $Y^a_b Y^i_j$ just replacing X to Y . There are no contributions from the last 2 terms of (C5). This is simply because our wave function is “real.”

2. Decomposition for $[\text{Tr}(XY)]^2$

By using previous results, we can decompose adjoint \otimes adjoint into irreducible representations. Since the contraction with different representations vanish, one can decompose $[\text{Tr}(XY)]^2$ as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2 &= [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\mathbf{1}} + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\mathbf{N}^2-\mathbf{1}_s} + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\mathbf{N}^2-\mathbf{1}_a} \\ & \quad + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\frac{1}{4}\mathbf{N}^2(\mathbf{N}-\mathbf{1})(\mathbf{N}+\mathbf{3})} + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\frac{1}{4}\mathbf{N}^2(\mathbf{N}+\mathbf{1})(\mathbf{N}-\mathbf{3})}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C12})$$

where

$$[\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\mathbf{1}} = \frac{1}{N^2-1} \text{Tr} X^2 \text{Tr} Y^2, \quad (\text{C13})$$

$$[\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\mathbf{N}^2-\mathbf{1}_s} = \frac{1}{N+2} \left[\text{Tr}(X^2 Y^2) - \frac{1}{N} (\text{Tr} X^2)(\text{Tr} Y^2) \right], \quad (\text{C14})$$

$$[\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\mathbf{N}^2-\mathbf{1}_a} = \frac{1}{N-2} \left[\text{Tr}(X^2 Y^2) - \frac{1}{N} (\text{Tr} X^2)(\text{Tr} Y^2) \right], \quad (\text{C15})$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\frac{1}{4}\mathbf{N}^2(\mathbf{N}-\mathbf{1})(\mathbf{N}+\mathbf{3})} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\text{Tr}(XY) \text{Tr}(XY) + \text{Tr}(XYXY) - \frac{2}{N+2} \text{Tr}(X^2 Y^2) + \frac{1}{(N+1)(N+2)} \text{Tr} X^2 \text{Tr} Y^2 \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C16})$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\frac{1}{4}\mathbf{N}^2(\mathbf{N}+\mathbf{1})(\mathbf{N}-\mathbf{3})} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\text{Tr}(XY) \text{Tr}(XY) - \text{Tr}(XYXY) - \frac{2}{N-2} \text{Tr}(X^2 Y^2) + \frac{1}{(N-1)(N-2)} \text{Tr} X^2 \text{Tr} Y^2 \right] \\ &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C17})$$

Each symbol $|_{\mathbf{R}}$ denotes the projection into each irreducible representation \mathbf{R} . A reason why the last vanishes is the same as the case of two mesons at the same position with the same direction, which do not have the totally antisymmetric combination.

Explicitly we have

$$(X^2)^a_b = (\varphi^\dagger \varphi) \left[\left(1 - \frac{2}{N} \right) \varphi^a \varphi_b^\dagger + \frac{1}{N^2} \delta^a_b (\varphi^\dagger \varphi) \right], \quad (\text{C18})$$

$$(XY)^a_b = (\varphi^\dagger \phi) \phi_b^\dagger \varphi^a - \frac{1}{N} \{ (\varphi^\dagger \varphi) \phi_b^\dagger \phi^a + \varphi_b^\dagger \varphi^a (\phi^\dagger \phi) \} + \frac{1}{N^2} \delta^a_b (\varphi^\dagger \varphi) (\phi^\dagger \phi), \quad (\text{C19})$$

$$\text{Tr} X^2 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{N} \right) (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2, \quad (\text{C20})$$

$$\text{Tr}(XY) = (\varphi^\dagger \phi)(\phi^\dagger \varphi) - \frac{1}{N}(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\phi^\dagger \phi), \quad (\text{C21})$$

$$\text{Tr}(X^2 Y^2) = (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\phi^\dagger \phi) \left[\left(\frac{N-2}{N} \right)^2 (\phi^\dagger \varphi)(\varphi^\dagger \phi) + \frac{1}{N^3} (2N-3)(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\phi^\dagger \phi) \right], \quad (\text{C22})$$

$$\text{Tr}(XYXY) = (\varphi^\dagger \phi)^2 (\phi^\dagger \varphi)^2 - \frac{4(N-1)}{N^2} (\varphi^\dagger \phi)(\phi^\dagger \varphi)(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\phi^\dagger \phi) + \frac{1}{N^3} (2N-3)(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2 (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2, \quad (\text{C23})$$

$$\left[\text{Tr}(X^2 Y^2) - \frac{1}{N} (\text{Tr} X^2)(\text{Tr} Y^2) \right] = \left(\frac{N-2}{N} \right)^2 (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\phi^\dagger \phi) \text{Tr}(XY). \quad (\text{C24})$$

3. Summary

To summarize, the final results are explicitly given as

$$\Psi(\varphi, U) = \Psi_1(\varphi, U) + \Psi_{N^2-1}(\varphi, U) + \Psi_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)}(\varphi, U), \quad (\text{C25})$$

where

$$\Psi_1(\varphi, U) = \frac{1}{N^2} (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2 (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_1 = \frac{2}{N(N+1)} (\varphi_b^\dagger \varphi_b)^2 (\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger \varphi_{b+1})^2, \quad (\text{C26})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_{N^2-1}(\varphi, U) &= \frac{2}{N} (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\phi^\dagger \phi) \text{Tr}(XY) + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{N^2-1_s} + [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{N^2-1_a} \\ &= \frac{4}{N+2} (\varphi_b^\dagger \varphi_b)(\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger \varphi_{b+1}) \left[(\varphi_b^\dagger U_{b,b+1} \varphi_{b+1})(\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger U_{b,b+1}^\dagger \varphi_b) - \frac{1}{N} (\varphi_b^\dagger \varphi_b)(\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger \varphi_{b+1}) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C27})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)}(\varphi, U) &= [\text{Tr}(XY)]^2|_{\frac{1}{4}N^2(N-1)(N+3)} \\ &= (\varphi_b^\dagger U_{b,b+1} \varphi_{b+1})^2 (\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger U_{b,b+1}^\dagger \varphi_b)^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{N+2} (\varphi_b^\dagger \varphi_b)(\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger \varphi_{b+1}) \left[2(\varphi_b^\dagger U_{b,b+1} \varphi_{b+1})(\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger U_{b,b+1}^\dagger \varphi_b) - \frac{1}{N+1} (\varphi_b^\dagger \varphi_b)(\varphi_{b+1}^\dagger \varphi_{b+1}) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C28})$$

Note that this result also holds for the $N = 2$ case.

APPENDIX D: FEYNMAN DIAGRAMS FOR TRANSFER MATRIX IN THE HPE

The hopping parameter expansions (HPE) for the transfer matrix can be evaluated efficiently using Feynman diagrams. We consider the $SU(N)$ gauge theory with fundamental scalar fields in 2-dimensional lattice space-time, where the horizontal direction corresponds to the spatial direction while the vertical direction corresponds to the Euclidean time direction, respectively.

The transfer matrix is defined in Sec. VI. As is clear from the expression, it represents a transition from a “current state” (which we denote as $\Psi^B = \{\phi, V\}$) to a “future state” (which we denote as $\Psi^A = \{\varphi, U\}$) by

unit time shift. As mentioned, we take the temporal gauge, therefore all gauge link variables along the time direction are set to unity.

1. Diagrams

a. States

The gauge invariant “quark-antiquark” states $|n, m\rangle$ labeled by site positions (n, m) are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Psi^A | n, n \rangle &= \varphi_n^\dagger \varphi_n, \\ \langle \Psi^A | n, m \rangle &= \varphi_n^\dagger U_{n \rightarrow m} \varphi_m (n < m), \\ \langle \Psi^A | n, m \rangle &= \varphi_n^\dagger U_{m \rightarrow n}^\dagger \varphi_m (n > m), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D1})$$

where

$$U_{n \rightarrow m} = U_{n,n+1} U_{n+1,n+2} \cdots U_{m-1,m}. \quad (D2)$$

These states can be represented graphically as

$$\langle \Psi^B | n, n \rangle = \text{○} \bullet_n, \quad \langle \Psi^B | n, n+1 \rangle = \text{○}_n \rightarrow \bullet_{n+1} \quad (D3)$$

for the “current” states, and

$$\langle \Psi^A | n, n \rangle = \text{○} \bullet_n, \quad \langle \Psi^A | n+2, n \rangle = \text{○}_n \leftarrow \bullet_{n+2} \quad (D4)$$

for the “future” states. Here a matter field is represented as a white or black circle for ϕ^\dagger or ϕ respectively, while a (spatial) gauge field is a line with direction. Current fields are on the bottom and future fields are on the top such that the (Euclidean) time goes upward.

The ground state $|0\rangle$ is represented as an empty diagram.

b. Transfer matrix

The transfer matrix \hat{T} is given by¹⁵

$$\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | \Psi^B \rangle = T_G(U, V) T_M(\phi, \phi) T_0^2(\Psi^B). \quad (D5)$$

Using hopping parameter K , we can represent $T_0(\Psi^B)$, $T_M(U, V)$ as

$$\begin{aligned} T_0^2(\Psi^B) &= \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \left(\exp \left[-\phi_n^\dagger \phi_n + K \left\{ \phi_n^\dagger V_n \phi_{n+1} + \phi_{n+1}^\dagger V_n^\dagger \phi_n \right\} \right] \right) \\ &= \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} A_n \exp \left[K \left\{ \text{○}_n \bullet_{n+1} + \bullet_n \leftarrow \text{○}_{n+1} \right\} \right], \\ &= A \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \sum_{h_n=0}^{\infty} \frac{K^{h_n}}{h_n!} \left(\text{○}_n \bullet_{n+1} + \bullet_n \leftarrow \text{○}_{n+1} \right)^{h_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (D6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_M(\phi, \phi) &= \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \exp \left[K (\phi_n^\dagger \phi_n + \phi_n^\dagger \varphi_n) \right] \\ &= \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \exp \left[K \left(\text{○}_n + \bullet_n \right) \right] \\ &= \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \sum_{v_n=0}^{\infty} \frac{K^{v_n}}{v_n!} \left(\text{○}_n + \bullet_n \right)^{v_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (D7)$$

In the last line of both equations, we expand them in the power series of K (HPE). Here we define $A_n = e^{-\phi_n^\dagger \phi_n}$ and $A = \prod_n A_n$, which give damping factors under the ϕ integral for normalization.¹⁶

Ignoring the difference between a meson and its Hermitian conjugation, we have two types of diagrams, horizontal pairs and vertical pairs. Notice that vertical lines have no direction, due to the temporal gauge we take. Vertical lines are simply connecting color degrees of freedom on both ends in the (anti-)fundamental representation.

2. Evaluating the transfer matrix in HPE

In this subsection, we explicitly evaluate the action of the transfer matrix to some states. At the $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$ in the HPE, generic matrix elements are given by $\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | \alpha \rangle$ where $|\alpha\rangle = \{|0\rangle, |n, m\rangle\}$. In other words, the ground state $|0\rangle$ mix with at most a single meson state, and one can neglect multimeson states at this order.¹⁷

By inserting the completeness relation, we get

$$\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | \alpha \rangle = \int d\Psi^B \langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | \Psi^B \rangle \langle \Psi^B | \alpha \rangle. \quad (D8)$$

We thus get $\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | \alpha \rangle$ at $\mathcal{O}(K^s)$ order from the following rules,

- (1) Start from the diagram representing $\langle \Psi^B | \alpha \rangle$.
- (2) Expand T_0 and T_M in terms of K and pick up all allowed terms, i.e., terms which satisfy $\sum_n (h_n + v_n) \leq s$, where h_n and v_n are numbers of horizontal and vertical pairs, respectively. Then act these terms on the above $\langle \Psi^B | \alpha \rangle$ (graphically putting corresponding diagrams), and integrate ϕ (=current matter fields) in the total diagrams.
- (3) Finally act T_G on the diagrams, and integrate V (=current link variables).

¹⁵In this appendix, we use rescaled \hat{T} which is used after Sec. VIC. Therefore c_G does not appear here.

¹⁶We here ignore irrelevant constants such as powers of π 's.

¹⁷The multimeson states are important once we take into account higher order corrections in the HPE.

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We have several comments for integrals of matters and link variables.

- (i) The integration of ϕ can be done by using correlation functions for scalar fields such as

$$\begin{aligned}\langle (\phi_n^\dagger)_a \phi_m^b \rangle &= \delta_{nm} \delta_a^b, \\ \langle \phi_n^a \phi_m^b \rangle &= \langle (\phi_n^\dagger)_a (\phi_m^\dagger)_b \rangle = 0, \\ \langle (\phi_n^\dagger)_a \phi_{n_b}^b (\phi_{n_c}^\dagger)_c \phi_{n_d}^d \rangle &= \delta_a^b \delta_c^d \delta_{n_a, n_b} \delta_{n_c, n_d} \\ &\quad + \delta_a^d \delta_c^b \delta_{n_a, n_d} \delta_{n_c, n_b}, \quad (\text{D9})\end{aligned}$$

where $a, b, c, d = 1, 2, \dots, N$ are color index¹⁸ Non-zero contributions can be obtained if and only if the integrand contains same number of \circ and \bullet at each site at the bottom (current). In addition we see that the number of \circ and \bullet must be globally equal and the total number of vertical pairs must be even.

- (ii) In the diagrammatic representation, the integration by ϕ at the bottom (current) connects a line attaching to a white circle with a line attaching to a black circle at the same site, and then remove these circles. For example,

$$\begin{array}{c} \circ \quad \circ \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \square \quad \square \\ \square \quad \square \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array}. \quad (\text{D10})$$

If a closed loop or a shrunk point without links appear after the integral, a factor N must be attached as

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \longleftarrow \circ \\ \circ \longrightarrow \bullet \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \square \end{array} = N, \quad \circ \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow N. \quad (\text{D11})$$

We can explicitly check the above rules using (D9).

- (iii) As explained in Sec. VI, T_G can be expanded in terms of characters as

$$T_G(U, V) = \prod_{n=0}^{N_l-1} \sum_{\mathbf{R}} d_{\mathbf{R}} \frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{R}}(\beta)}{\lambda_1(\beta)} \chi_{\mathbf{R}}(U_{n,1} V_{n,1}^\dagger). \quad (\text{D12})$$

With the orthogonality condition (6.21), one can easily perform the gauge field integration on each link. For example, if $T_G(U, V)$ acts on gauge fields $(V_{n,n+3})^a_b$ and V 's are integrated, we can represent this procedure graphically as

$$\begin{aligned}& \int (\Pi_{n=1, \dots, N_l} dV_{n,n+1}) T_G(U, V) (V_{n,n+3})^a_b \\&= \Pi_{s=0,1,2} \left(\int dV_{n+s, n+1+s} \left\{ \left(\frac{d_F \lambda_{\mathbf{F}}}{\lambda_1} \right) \text{Tr} \left(\begin{array}{c} \square \\ n+s \quad n+1+s \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{c} a \longrightarrow b \\ n+s \quad n+1+s \end{array} \right\} \right) \\&= \left(\frac{d_F \lambda_{\mathbf{F}}}{\lambda_1} \right)^3 \Pi_{s=0,1,2} \int dV_{n+s, n+1+s} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \square \\ c \longrightarrow d \\ a \longrightarrow b \\ n+s \quad n+1+s \end{array} \end{array} \\&= \left(\frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{F}}}{\lambda_1} \right)^3 \begin{array}{c} a \longrightarrow b \\ n \quad n+3 \end{array}. \quad (\text{D13})\end{aligned}$$

We see in this case that T_G plays a role of uplifting gauge fields with the factor $\lambda_{\mathbf{F}}/\lambda_1$ for each link.

¹⁸We take the irrelevant multiplicative constant of T_0 to normalize the first equation.

- (iv) More generally, acting on links which belong to the irreducible representation \mathbf{R} , T_G uplifts gauge fields with the factor λ_R/λ_1 .
- (v) For more complicated links which do not belong to one irreducible representation such as a product of links in some representations, we should decompose them into irreducible representations before the integration. For example, $V^a_b V^{\dagger d}_c$, which belongs to fundamental \times antifundamental representations, can be decomposed into singlet and adjoint part as

$$V^a_b V^{\dagger d}_c = \left(\frac{1}{N} \delta^a_c \delta^d_b \right) + \left(V^a_b V^{\dagger d}_c - \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_c \delta^d_b \right). \quad (\text{D14})$$

We can visualize this as

$$\begin{array}{c} c \\ \longleftarrow \\ a \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \longrightarrow \\ d \\ b \end{array} = \frac{1}{N} \delta^a_c \delta^d_b + \begin{array}{c} (a, c) \\ \text{---} \\ (b, d) \end{array}, \quad (\text{D15})$$

where the doubled line without direction represents the gauge field in the adjoint representation. Each pair (a, c) or (b, d) correspond to an index of the adjoint representation of the gauge field, whose dimension is $N^2 - 1$.

- (vi) With matter fields, we can represent the decomposition (C2) as:

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \longleftarrow \circ \\ \circ \longrightarrow \bullet \end{array} = \frac{1}{N} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \circ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \circ \\ \bullet \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \square \text{---} \square \end{array}, \quad (\text{D16})$$

where squares correspond to the adjoint parts of the matter field. This leads to the following relation we will use later.

$$\int dV T_G(U, V) \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ \circ \circ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} = \int dV T_G(U, V) \left[\frac{1}{N} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ \circ \circ \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \square \text{---} \square \end{array} \right] \quad (\text{D17})$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ \circ \circ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} = \frac{1}{N} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ \circ \circ \end{array} + \frac{\lambda_{\text{Adj}}}{\lambda_1} \begin{array}{c} \square \text{---} \square \end{array}.$$

3. Some examples

a. $\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | n, n \rangle$ at $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$

We derive the explicit form of $\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | n, n \rangle$ at $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$. We start from the diagram $\bullet \bullet$. At K^0 order we only have

$$\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | n, n \rangle |_{K^0} = \int d\Psi^B A_{\bullet \bullet}^{aa} = \delta^a_a = N, \quad (\text{D18})$$

where we denote color indices explicitly. We thus obtain

$$\hat{T}|n, n\rangle|_{K^0} = N|0\rangle. \quad (D19)$$

At K^1 , from the comment we gave before, the acting pair must be horizontal. However one horizontal pair cannot make even number matter fields on each site, so there are no contribution at this order.

At K^2 order, next, we can consider two vertical pairs or two horizontal pairs. In both cases two pairs must share the same link as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | n, n \rangle |_{K^2}}{K^2} &= \int dV T_G(U, V) d\phi A \left[\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} a \circ c \\ b \bullet b \\ n \end{array} + \sum_{m \neq n} \left(\begin{array}{c} b \circ c \\ a \bullet a \\ n \end{array} \dots \begin{array}{c} b \circ c \\ a \bullet a \\ m \end{array} \right) \\ + \begin{array}{c} b \\ a \bullet a \rightarrow c \\ n \quad e \quad n+1 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} b \\ a \circ a \leftarrow c \\ n-1 \quad d \quad n \end{array} + \sum_{m \neq n-1, n} \left(\begin{array}{c} a \bullet a \\ n \end{array} \dots \begin{array}{c} b \circ a \leftarrow c \\ e \bullet e \rightarrow d \\ m \quad m+1 \end{array} \right) \end{array} \right] \\ &= \int dV T_G(U, V) \left[\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} a \bullet c \quad b \bullet c \\ (\delta^b_a \delta^c_b + \delta^b_b \delta^c_a) \quad n \end{array} + \sum_{m \neq n} \delta^a_a \delta^b_c \quad m \\ + (\delta^a_a \delta^b_e + \delta^a_e \delta^b_a) \delta^c_d \begin{array}{c} b \leftarrow c \\ e \rightarrow d \\ n \quad n+1 \end{array} + \delta^a_e (\delta^c_c \delta^d_b + \delta^c_b \delta^d_c) \begin{array}{c} a \leftarrow b \\ e \rightarrow d \\ n-1 \quad n \end{array} \\ + \sum_{m \neq n-1, n} \delta^a_a \delta^b_e \delta^c_d \begin{array}{c} b \leftarrow c \\ e \rightarrow d \\ m \quad m+1 \end{array} \end{array} \right] \\ &\quad \begin{array}{c} \circ \bullet \quad \bullet \circ \end{array} \\ &= (1 + N) \quad n + N \sum_{m \neq n} \quad m + 2N(1 + N) + N^2(N_l - 2). \end{aligned} \quad (D20)$$

We finally obtain

$$\hat{T}|n, n\rangle|_{K^2} = K^2 N(NN_l + 2)|0\rangle + K^2 |n, n\rangle + K^2 N \sum_m |m, m\rangle. \quad (D21)$$

At $\mathcal{O}(K^3)$ order, there are three horizontal or vertical pairs. Only the “U” shape diagram, consisting of two vertical and one horizontal pairs, are allowed, since other cases lead to an odd number of scalar fields on some site. Employing rules (D10) and (D11) and taking care for the direction, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\langle \Psi^A | \hat{T} | n, n \rangle |_{K^3}}{K^3} &= \int dV T_G(U, V) d\phi A \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} + \text{Diagram 2} \\ + \text{Diagram 3} + \text{Diagram 4} \\ + \sum_{m \neq n, n-1} \left(\text{Diagram 5} + \text{Diagram 6} \right) \end{array} \right] \\
 &= \int dV T_G(U, V) \left[(N+1) \sum_{m=n-1, n} \left(\text{Diagram 7} + \text{Diagram 8} \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + N \sum_{m \neq n-1, n} \left(\text{Diagram 9} + \text{Diagram 10} \right) \right] \\
 &= \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right) \sum_m (N + \delta_{m, n-1} + \delta_{m, n}) \left(\text{Diagram 11} + \text{Diagram 12} \right).
 \end{aligned} \tag{D22}$$

As a result, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{T} |n, n\rangle |_{K^3} &= K^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right) (|n, n+1\rangle + |n+1, n\rangle + |n-1, n\rangle + |n, n-1\rangle) \\
 &\quad + K^3 N \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right) \sum_m (|m, m+1\rangle + |m, m-1\rangle).
 \end{aligned} \tag{D23}$$

b. The detail for the calculation of (7.48)

Here we show the derivation of (7.48), coefficient of $|i, i\rangle |i+1, i+1\rangle$ term at K^6 order. All we have to consider is $\hat{T}_6 |G_0^+\rangle = \hat{T}_6 |0\rangle$ and $\hat{T}_4 |G_2^+\rangle = \sum_n \hat{T}_4 |n, n\rangle$.

First let us consider $\hat{T}_6 |0\rangle$. We have six mesonlike pairs in \hat{T} , which act on $|0\rangle$. The four of them must be devoted to construct the future state $|i, i\rangle |i+1, i+1\rangle$ and the other two must be conjugated with each other in the horizontal direction. So we have following patterns of configurations to integrate:

(D24)

where $j \neq i - 1, i, i + 1$. For the first configuration, the integration can be done as

(D25)

where we use (D17). For the other configurations, we have

(D26)

For $\hat{T}_4 \sum_n |n, n\rangle$, all of pairs in \hat{T} should be used to make $|i, i\rangle |i+1\rangle |i+1\rangle$. So we have

(D27)

Combining all results, the coefficient of $|i, i\rangle|i + 1, i + 1\rangle$ becomes $2NN_l + 6 + \frac{1}{N}$.

APPENDIX E: $\mathcal{O}(K^2)$ EIGENSTATES AND EIGENVALUES OF \hat{T}

In this appendix, we derive eigenvalues and their eigenfunctions of the transfer matrix \hat{T} at $\mathcal{O}(K^2)$, where $|0\rangle$ and $|n, m\rangle$ with $|n - m| \leq 2$ mix with each other. First, we classify these eigenstates depending on the value of f_0 (zero or nonzero) as

$$\begin{aligned} |G\rangle_K &\equiv f_0|0\rangle + \sum_n a_n|n, n\rangle + \sum_n b_n|n, n+1\rangle + \sum_n c_n|n, n-1\rangle + \sum_n d_n|n, n+2\rangle + \sum_n e_n|n, n-2\rangle, \\ |E\rangle_K &\equiv \sum_n a_n|n, n\rangle + \sum_n b_n|n, n+1\rangle + \sum_n c_n|n, n-1\rangle + \sum_n d_n|n, n+2\rangle + \sum_n e_n|n, n-2\rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{E1})$$

which correspond to $f_0 \neq 0$ case and $f_0 = 0$ case, respectively. Here $|G\rangle_K$'s should include $|0\rangle$ while $|E\rangle_K$'s denote the complement of $|G\rangle_K$'s.¹⁹

All relevant eigenvalues and eigenfunctions are obtained as follows.

(i) States $|G^\pm\rangle_K$ with eigenvalues G_K^\pm are given by

$$|G^\pm\rangle_K := |0\rangle + \sum_n a_n^\pm |n, n\rangle, \quad \text{where } a_n^\pm = \frac{K^2}{G_K^\pm - (1 + NN_\ell)K^2}, \quad (\text{E2})$$

$$G_K^\pm = \frac{1}{2} \{1 + K^2(1 + 2NN_\ell)\} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 - 2(1 - 2NN_\ell)K^2 + \{1 + 4N(NN_\ell + 2)N_\ell\}K^4}. \quad (\text{E3})$$

(ii) State $|G^{bc}\rangle_K$ with the eigenvalue G_K^{bc} is given by

$$|G^{bc}\rangle_K := K|0\rangle + \frac{K}{\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} - (1 + NN_\ell)} \sum_n |n, n\rangle + \sum_n (b_n^G |n, n+1\rangle + c_n^G |n, n-1\rangle), \quad (\text{E4})$$

$$G_K^{bc} = K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right), \quad (\text{E5})$$

where coefficients b_n^G and c_n^G must satisfy

$$\sum_n (b_n^G + c_n^G) = -\frac{1}{N} - \frac{N_\ell}{\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} - (1 + NN_\ell)} + K^2 \left[\frac{1}{N} \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right) - N_\ell - (NN_\ell + 2) \frac{N_\ell}{\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} - (1 + NN_\ell)} \right]. \quad (\text{E6})$$

(iii) State $|G^{de}\rangle_K$ with the eigenvalue G_K^{de} is given by

$$|G^{de}\rangle_K := K^2|0\rangle + \frac{K^2}{\left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 - (1 + NN_\ell)} \sum_n |n, n\rangle + \sum_n (d_n^G |n, n+2\rangle + e_n^G |n, n-2\rangle) \quad (\text{E7})$$

$$G_K^{de} = K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right)^2, \quad (\text{E8})$$

¹⁹ G for $|G\rangle_K$ means that it contains the strong coupling ground state $|0\rangle$, while E for $|E\rangle_K$ represents the lattice excited states. Their subscript K denotes that the state depends on K .

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where coefficients d_n^G and e_n^G must satisfy

$$\sum_n (d_n^G + e_n^G) = -\frac{1}{N} - \frac{N_\ell}{\left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 - (1 + NN_\ell)} + K^2 \left[\frac{1}{N} \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right)^2 - N_\ell - (NN_\ell + 2) \frac{N_\ell}{\left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1}\right)^2 - (1 + NN_\ell)} \right]. \quad (\text{E9})$$

(iv) State $|E^a\rangle_K$ with the eigenvalue E_K^a is given by

$$|E^a\rangle_K := \sum_n a_n^E |n, n\rangle \quad \text{where} \quad \sum_n a_n^E = 0, \quad (\text{E10})$$

$$E_K^a = K^2. \quad (\text{E11})$$

(v) State $|E^{bc}\rangle_K$, which gives the eigenvalues E_K^{bc} , defined as

$$|E^{bc}\rangle_K := \sum_n (b_n^E |n, n+1\rangle + c_n^E |n, n-1\rangle),$$

$$\text{where} \quad \sum_n (b_n^E + c_n^E) = 0, \quad (\text{E12})$$

$$E_K^{bc} = K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right). \quad (\text{E13})$$

(vi) State $|E^{de}\rangle_K$ with the eigenvalue E_K^{de} is given by

$$|E^{de}\rangle_K := \sum_n (d_n^Y |n, n+2\rangle + e_n^Y |n, n-2\rangle),$$

$$\text{where} \quad \sum_n (d_n^Y + e_n^Y) = 0, \quad (\text{E14})$$

$$E_K^{de} = K^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_F}{\lambda_1} \right)^2. \quad (\text{E15})$$

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